

ON BUNDLES THAT ADMIT FIBERWISE HYPERBOLIC DYNAMICS

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ABSTRACT. This paper is devoted to rigidity of smooth bundles which are equipped with fiberwise geometric or dynamical structure. We show that the fiberwise associated sphere bundle to a bundle whose leaves are equipped with (continuously varying) metrics of negative curvature is a topologically trivial bundle when either the base space is simply connected or, more generally, when the bundle is fiber homotopically trivial. We present two very different proofs of this result: a geometric proof and a dynamical proof. We also establish a number of rigidity results for bundles which are equipped with fiberwise Anosov dynamical systems. Finally, we present several examples which show that our results are sharp in certain ways or illustrate necessity of various assumptions.

1. NEGATIVELY CURVED BUNDLES

1.1. The results. Recall that a *smooth bundle* is a fiber bundle $M \rightarrow E \xrightarrow{p} X$ whose fiber M is a connected closed manifold and whose structure group is the diffeomorphism group $\text{Diff}(M)$. A *negatively curved bundle* is a smooth bundle $M \rightarrow E \xrightarrow{p} X$ whose fibers $M_x = p^{-1}(x)$, $x \in X$, are equipped with Riemannian metrics g_x , $x \in X$, of negative curvature. Furthermore, we require that the Riemannian metrics g_x vary continuously with x in the C^∞ topology.

We say that a smooth bundle $M \rightarrow E \xrightarrow{p} X$ is *topologically trivial* if there exists a continuous map $r: E \rightarrow M$ such that the restriction $r|_{M_x}: M_x \rightarrow M$, is a homeomorphism for each $x \in X$. Note that if $M \rightarrow E \xrightarrow{p} X$ is topologically trivial then $(p, r): E \rightarrow X \times M$ is a fiber preserving homeomorphism.

Conjecture 1.1 (Farrell-Ontaneda). *Let X be a compact simply connected manifold or a simply connected finite simplicial complex and let $M \rightarrow E \xrightarrow{p} X$ be a negatively curved bundle. Then the bundle $p: E \rightarrow X$ is, in fact, topologically trivial.*

Remark 1.2. Techniques developed in [FO09, FO10a, FO10b] can be used to verify this conjecture in certain special cases (when $\dim M \gg \dim X$ and X is a sphere). However the general conjecture above seems to be out of reach to these topological techniques.

In this paper classical dynamical systems techniques are used to verify related results in full generality which we proceed to describe. Given a smooth closed

*The first author was partially supported by NSF grant DMS-1206622.

**The second author was partially supported by NSF grants DMS-1204943, 1266282. He also would like to acknowledge the support provided by Dean's Research Semester Award at SUNY Binghamton.

manifold M we define its *tangent sphere bundle* SM as the quotient of $TM \setminus M$ by identifying two non-zero tangent vectors u and v based at a common point $x \in M$ if and only if there exists a positive number λ such that $u = \lambda v$. Similarly given a smooth bundle $M \rightarrow E \xrightarrow{p} X$ we define its *(fiberwise) associated sphere bundle* $SM \rightarrow SE \xrightarrow{S(p)} X$ as the quotient of the space of non-zero vectors tangent to the fibers of $p: E \rightarrow X$. Given a (class of a) vector $v \in SE$ with a base point $x \in E$ we define $S(p)(v) = p(x)$. Then it is clear that the fibers of the associated sphere bundle are diffeomorphic to SM . Also note that if the fibers of a smooth bundle are equipped with continuously varying Riemannian metrics then the total space of the associated sphere bundle can be realized as the space of unit vectors tangent to the fibers of the original bundle.

Theorem 1.3. *Let $p: E \rightarrow X$ be a smooth negatively curved bundle whose base space X is a simply connected closed manifold or a simply connected finite simplicial complex. Then its (fiberwise) associated sphere bundle $S(p): SE \rightarrow X$ is topologically trivial.*

We say that a smooth bundle $M \rightarrow E \xrightarrow{p} X$ is *fiber homotopically trivial* if there exists a continuous map $q: E \rightarrow M$ such that the restriction $q|_{M_x}: M_x \rightarrow M$ is a homotopy equivalence for each $x \in X$.

Proposition 1.4. *If X is a simply connected closed manifold or a simply connected finite simplicial complex and $M \rightarrow E \xrightarrow{p} X$ is a negatively curved bundle then it is fiber homotopically trivial.*

Because of the above proposition Theorem 1.3 is a consequence of the following more general result.

Theorem 1.5. *Let X be a closed manifold or a finite simplicial complex and $p: E \rightarrow X$ be a smooth negatively curved, fiber homotopically trivial bundle. Then its (fiberwise) associated sphere bundle $S(p): SE \rightarrow X$ is topologically trivial.*

It was shown in [FO10a] that there are “lots” of smooth bundles $E \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^k$, ($k > 1$) whose abstract fiber M supports a negatively curved Riemannian metric, but which are not negatively curved. So Theorem 1.3 does not apply to these bundles. Hence it is a priori conceivable that the conclusion of Theorem 1.3 holds under the weaker assumption that the abstract fiber M supports a negatively curved Riemannian metric. However the next result shows that this is not the case.

Theorem 1.6. *For each prime number $p > 2$, there exists a smooth bundle $M \rightarrow E \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^{2p-3}$ such that*

1. *the (abstract) fiber M is real hyperbolic, i.e., M supports a Riemannian metric of constant negative sectional curvature;*
2. *the (fiberwise) associated sphere bundle $SM \rightarrow SE \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^{2p-3}$ is not topologically trivial.*

We will prove Theorem 1.6 in Section 5. Now we proceed to give concise proofs of Proposition 1.4 and Theorem 1.5.

1.2. Proofs.

Proof of Proposition 1.4. We first consider the case where X as a finite simplicial complex. Let $X^1 \subset X$ be the 1-skeleton of X . First note that the inclusion map

$\sigma: X^1 \rightarrow X$ is homotopic to a constant map with value, say, $x_0 \in X$. By the covering homotopy theorem, this homotopy is covered by a bundle map homotopy starting with the inclusion map $p^{-1}(X^1) \subset E$ and ending with a continuous map $q^1: p^{-1}(X^1) \rightarrow M_{x_0}$ which is a homotopy equivalence when restricted to each fiber.

Denote by $G(M)$ the space of self homotopy equivalences of M . Then

$$\pi_n(G(M)) = \begin{cases} \text{Center}(\pi_1(M)), & \text{if } n = 1 \\ 0, & \text{if } n \geq 2, \end{cases} \quad (1.1)$$

since M is aspherical (see [G65]). Note that center of $\pi_1(M)$ is trivial because M is negatively curved. Hence $\pi_n(G(M))$ is trivial for $n \geq 1$ and we can inductively extend map q^1 to successive skeletons of X until we obtain a fiber homotopy trivialization q .

We now consider the case where X is a closed manifold. If X is smooth, then we are done by the first case since every smooth manifold can be triangulated. But there are many examples of closed topological manifolds that cannot be triangulated. However, every closed manifold is an ANR and, hence, is homotopy equivalent to finite simplicial complex K (see [W70]). Let $r: K \rightarrow X$ be a homotopy equivalence and $\sigma: K \rightarrow X$ be its homotopy inverse. Also let

$$(\xi_K) \quad M \rightarrow \mathcal{E} \rightarrow K$$

denote the pullback bundle along $r: K \rightarrow X$ of the given bundle

$$(\xi_X) \quad M \rightarrow E \xrightarrow{p} X$$

Then bundle (ξ_K) is negatively curved and, hence, is fiber homotopically trivial by the argument in the first case.

But if ξ_K is fiber homotopically trivial, then so is ξ_X since

$$\xi_X = id^*(\xi_K) = \sigma^*(r^*(\xi_K)) = \sigma^*(\xi_K).$$

□

Proof of Theorem 1.5. Denote by $q: E \rightarrow M$ the fiber homotopy trivialization. Choose a base point $x_0 \in X$. We identify the abstract fiber M of the bundle with the fiber M_{x_0} over x_0 . We choose this identification so that $q|_M: M \rightarrow M$ induces the identity map on $\pi_1(M)$. Therefore $q_\#: \pi_1(E) \rightarrow \pi_1(M)$ splits the short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \pi_1(M) \rightarrow \pi_1(E) \rightarrow \pi_1(X) \rightarrow 0.$$

Hence $\pi_1(E) \simeq \pi_1(X) \times \pi_1(M)$.

Let $\rho: \tilde{E} \rightarrow E$ be a covering map such that $\rho_\# \pi_1(\tilde{E}) = \pi_1(X) \subset \pi_1(E)$. Let $\tilde{p} = p \circ \rho$. Note that $\rho_\#$ intertwines the long exact sequences for p and \tilde{p} :

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} \dots & \longrightarrow & \pi_2(X) & \longrightarrow & \pi_1(\tilde{M}) & \longrightarrow & \pi_1(\tilde{E}) & \xrightarrow{\text{isom.}} & \pi_1(X) & \longrightarrow & \pi_0(\tilde{M}) & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ & & \downarrow id & & \downarrow \rho_\# & & \downarrow \rho_\# & & \downarrow id & & & & \\ \dots & \longrightarrow & \pi_2(X) & \xrightarrow{0} & \pi_1(M) & \longrightarrow & \pi_1(E) & \longrightarrow & \pi_1(X) & \longrightarrow & 0 \end{array}$$

We read from the above diagram that the fiber \tilde{M} is a connected simply connected manifold.

Recall that $p: E \rightarrow X$ is a negatively curved bundle. The negatively curved Riemannian metrics on the fibers of $p: E \rightarrow X$ lift to negatively curved Riemannian

metrics on the fibers of $\tilde{p}: \tilde{E} \rightarrow X$. For each fiber \tilde{M}_x , $x \in X$, consider the “sphere at infinity” $\tilde{M}_x(\infty)$, which is defined as the set of equivalence classes of asymptotic geodesic rays in \tilde{M}_x . Given a point $y \in \tilde{M}_x$, consider the map $r_y: S_y \tilde{M}_x \rightarrow \tilde{M}_x(\infty)$ defined by $v \mapsto [\gamma_v]$, where γ_v is the geodesic ray with $\gamma_v(0) = y$, $\dot{\gamma}_v(0) = v$, and $[\gamma_v]$ is the equivalence class of γ_v . Map r_y is a bijection that induces sphere topology on $\tilde{M}_x(\infty)$. (This topology does not depend on the choice of $y \in \tilde{M}_x$.)

Let $\tilde{E}(\infty) = \sqcup_{x \in X} \tilde{M}_x(\infty)$. Charts for $\tilde{p}: \tilde{E} \rightarrow X$ induce charts for the bundle $\tilde{p}_\infty: \tilde{E}(\infty) \rightarrow X$ whose fiber is the sphere at infinity $\tilde{M}(\infty)$. Using the Morse Lemma one can check that any diffeomorphism (and more generally any homotopy equivalence) $f: M \rightarrow M$ of a negatively curved manifold M induces a homeomorphism $f_\infty: \tilde{M}(\infty) \rightarrow \tilde{M}(\infty)$ that only depends on $f_\#: \pi_1(M) \rightarrow \pi_1(M)$ (see, e.g., [Kn02]). It follows that $\tilde{M}(\infty) \rightarrow \tilde{E}(\infty) \xrightarrow{\tilde{p}_\infty} X$ is a fiber bundle whose structure group is $Top(\tilde{M}(\infty))$. The action of $\pi_1(M)$ on \tilde{E} extends to $\tilde{E}(\infty)$ in the natural way.

Denote by $\tilde{q}: \tilde{E} \rightarrow \tilde{M}$ a lifting of fiber homotopy trivialization $q: E \rightarrow M$. Again, by the Morse Lemma, \tilde{q} induces a continuous map $\tilde{q}_\infty: \tilde{E}(\infty) \rightarrow \tilde{M}(\infty)$ such that the restriction $\tilde{q}_\infty|_{\tilde{M}_x(\infty)}: \tilde{M}_x(\infty) \rightarrow \tilde{M}(\infty)$ is a homeomorphism for each $x \in X$.

Remark 1.7. Note that $S\tilde{M}$ is (equivariantly) homeomorphic to $\tilde{M} \times \tilde{M}(\infty)$ via $\tilde{M} \times \tilde{M}(\infty) \ni (y, \xi) \mapsto r_y^{-1}(\xi) \in S\tilde{M}$. Therefore the map $S\tilde{E} \ni v \mapsto (\tilde{q}(y), \tilde{q}_\infty(r_y(v))) \in \tilde{M} \times \tilde{M}(\infty)$ induces a fiber homotopy trivialization $S\tilde{E} \rightarrow S\tilde{M}$ for the associated sphere bundle.

Now we use an idea of Gromov [Gr00] to finish the proof. We code each vector in $S\tilde{E}$ by a pair (γ, y) , where y is the base point of the vector and γ is the oriented geodesic in \tilde{M}_y in the direction of the vector. Furthermore, we code each oriented geodesic γ in \tilde{M}_y by an ordered pair of distinct points $(\gamma(-\infty), \gamma(\infty)) \in \tilde{M}_y(\infty) \times \tilde{M}_y(\infty)$. Define $\tilde{r}_0: S\tilde{E} \rightarrow S\tilde{M}$ by

$$\tilde{r}_0(\gamma(-\infty), \gamma(\infty), y) = (\tilde{q}_\infty(\gamma(-\infty)), \tilde{q}_\infty(\gamma(\infty)), pr(\tilde{q}(y))),$$

where $pr: \tilde{M} \rightarrow \tilde{q}_\infty(\gamma)$ is the orthogonal projection on the geodesic $\tilde{q}_\infty(\gamma)$ with endpoints $\tilde{q}_\infty(\gamma(-\infty))$ and $\tilde{q}_\infty(\gamma(\infty))$. Because the restrictions $\tilde{q}_\infty|_{\tilde{M}_x(\infty)}$ are homeomorphisms, the restrictions $\tilde{r}_0|_{S\tilde{M}_x}$ induce homeomorphisms on the corresponding spaces of geodesics. However $\tilde{r}_0|_{S\tilde{M}_x}$ may fail to be injective along the geodesics. To overcome this difficulty we follow Gromov and consider the maps $\tilde{r}_K: S\tilde{E} \rightarrow S\tilde{M}$ given by

$$\tilde{r}_K(\gamma(-\infty), \gamma(\infty), y) = \left(\tilde{q}_\infty(\gamma(-\infty)), \tilde{q}_\infty(\gamma(\infty)), \frac{1}{K} \int_0^K pr(\tilde{q}(\gamma(t))) dt \right),$$

for $K > 0$. For each $x \in X$ there exists a sufficiently large K such that the restriction $\tilde{r}_K|_{S\tilde{M}_x}$ is an equivariant homeomorphism (see [Kn02] for a detailed proof). In fact, because q is continuous, the same argument yields a stronger result: for each $x \in X$ there exists a sufficiently large K such that the restrictions $\tilde{r}_K|_{S\tilde{M}_y}$ are equivariant homeomorphisms for all y in a neighborhood of x . Hence, because X is compact, for a sufficiently large K the restrictions of \tilde{r} to the fibers are homeomorphisms. Project \tilde{r} back to E to obtain the posited topological trivialization $r: E \rightarrow M$. \square

1.3. Further geometric questions. Given a closed smooth Riemannian manifold M denote by $St_k M$ the bundle of ordered orthonormal k -frames in the tangent bundle TM . As before, given a negatively curved bundle $M \rightarrow E \xrightarrow{p} X$ we can define its (fiberwise) associated k -frame bundle $St_k M \rightarrow St_k E \xrightarrow{St_k(p)} X$.

Theorem 1.8. *Let X be a closed manifold or a finite simplicial complex and $p: E \rightarrow X$ be a smooth negatively curved, fiber homotopically trivial bundle. Then its (fiberwise) associated 2-frame bundle $St_2(p): St_2 E \rightarrow X$ is topologically trivial.*

The proof is the same except that one has to use the idea of Cheeger [Gr00] who suggested to code 2-frames in $St_2 \tilde{M}$ by ordered triples of points in $\tilde{M}(\infty)$.

Question 1.9. *Assume that M and N are closed negatively curved manifolds with isomorphic fundamental groups. Is it true that $St_k M$ is homeomorphic to $St_k N$ for $k \geq 3$?*

Question 1.10. *Let X be a finite simplicial complex and $p: E \rightarrow X$ be a smooth negatively curved, fiber homotopically trivial bundle. Let $k \geq 3$. Is it true that its (fiberwise) associated k -frame bundle $St_k(p): St_k E \rightarrow X$ is topologically trivial?*

Potentially, our techniques could be useful for this question, cf. discussion in Section 7.2.

2. ANOSOV BUNDLES: AN OVERVIEW

The rest of the paper is mainly devoted to topological rigidity of smooth bundles equipped with fiberwise Anosov dynamics in various different setups. Some of these results directly generalize Theorems 1.3 and 1.5 from the preceding section. We informally summarize our topological rigidity results in the following table.

Topology Fiberwise Dynamics	Simply connected base	Fiberwise homotopically trivial bundle
Anosov diffeomorphisms	Theorem 3.1 <hr/> examples: 3.7	Theorem 3.2 ^(*) , strong form: Addendum 3.5 ^(*) <hr/> examples: 3.7, 3.9
Anosov flows	Theorem 4.1 <hr/> examples: 1.6	Theorem 4.2 ^(**) , strong form: ? <hr/> examples: 1.6, 4.5
Partially hyperbolic dynamics	?	? <hr/> discussion: sections 1.3 and 7.2.

We now proceed with some comments on the table and contents of our paper. Then, after presenting the background on structural stability, we outline a general strategy which is common to all the proofs of topological rigidity results which appear further in the paper.

2.1. Comments.

1. The cells of the table contain references to topological rigidity results. The first row of the table indicates the assumption on the fiber bundle under which corresponding result holds and the first column of the table lists the corresponding dynamical assumption.
2. Under the label “examples” we refer to statements which provide examples to which corresponding topological rigidity result applies. All these examples are fairly explicit and are not smoothly rigid.
3. The topological rigidity results from the last column require extra assumptions: (\star) infranilmanifold fibers; $(\star\star)$ absence of homotopic periodic orbits. We do not know if these extra assumptions can be dropped.
4. Theorems 1.6 and 3.15 (which do not appear in the table) show that we cannot dispose of the dynamical assumption and still have topological rigidity.
5. In Section 7.1 we point out that examples given by Theorem 3.7 can be viewed as partially hyperbolic diffeomorphisms with certain peculiar properties.

2.2. Structural stability. All our proofs of topological rigidity results which appear in further sections strongly rely on structural stability of Anosov dynamical systems [An69].

Structural stability for Anosov diffeomorphisms. *Let $f: M \rightarrow M$ be an Anosov diffeomorphism. Then, for every $\delta > 0$ there exists $\varepsilon > 0$ such that if a diffeomorphism $\bar{f}: M \rightarrow M$ is such that*

$$d_{C^1}(f, \bar{f}) < \varepsilon$$

then \bar{f} is also Anosov and there exist a homeomorphism $h: M \rightarrow M$ such that

$$h \circ \bar{f} = f \circ h$$

and

$$d_{C^0}(h, id_M) < \delta.$$

Moreover, such homeomorphism h is unique.

Structural stability for Anosov flows. *Let $g^t: M \rightarrow M$ be an Anosov flow. Then, for every $\delta > 0$ there exists $\varepsilon > 0$ such that if a flow $\bar{g}^t: M \rightarrow M$ is C^1 ε -close to g^t then \bar{g}^t is also Anosov and there exist an orbit equivalence $h: M \rightarrow M$, (i.e., h is a homeomorphism which maps orbits of \bar{g}^t to orbits of g^t) such that*

$$d_{C^0}(h, id_M) < \delta.$$

The homeomorphism h given by structural stability is merely Hölder continuous and, in general, not even C^1 . Note that the uniqueness part of structural stability fails for flows. Indeed, if h is an orbit equivalence which is C^0 close to id_M then $g^\beta \circ h \circ \bar{g}^\alpha$ is another orbit equivalence which is C^0 close to identity provided that the functions $\alpha, \beta: M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ are C^0 close to the zero function.

2.3. Scheme of the proof of topological rigidity. Below we outline our approach to topological rigidity of Anosov bundles in a broad-brush manner. Definitions and precise statements of results appear in further sections.

Assume that $M \rightarrow E \rightarrow X$ is a smooth fiber bundle over a compact base X whose total space E is equipped with a fiberwise Anosov diffeomorphism or a fiberwise

Anosov flow. To show that such Anosov bundle is topologically trivial we first enlarge the structure group of the bundle

$$\text{Diff}(M) \subset \text{Top}(M)$$

and, from now on, view $M \rightarrow E \rightarrow X$ as a topological bundle. Employing Anosov dynamics in the fibers, we can identify nearby fibers using homeomorphisms which come from structural stability. This allows to reduce the structure group of the bundle

$$\text{Diff}(M) \subset \text{Top}(M) \supset F,$$

where F is the group of certain self conjugacies of a fixed Anosov diffeomorphism of M (self orbit equivalences in the flow case), which are homotopic to id_M .

The rest of the proof strongly depends on particular context. We only remark that, in the case when E is equipped with a fiberwise Anosov diffeomorphism, group F is discrete because of uniqueness part of structural stability. (Indeed, the only self conjugacy of Anosov diffeomorphism which is close to identity is the identity self conjugacy.) In the case of flows, the group F is larger, however we are able to show that F is contractible, *i.e.*, we further reduce the structure group to a trivial group which implies that the bundle is trivial as $\text{Top}(M)$ -bundle.

3. BUNDLES ADMITTING FIBERWISE ANOSOV DIFFEOMORPHISMS

Let $M \rightarrow E \rightarrow X$ be a smooth bundle. A fiber preserving diffeomorphism $f: E \rightarrow E$ is called a *fiberwise Anosov diffeomorphism* if the restrictions $f_x: M_x \rightarrow M_x$, $x \in X$, are Anosov diffeomorphisms. A smooth bundle $M \rightarrow E \rightarrow X$ is called *Anosov* if it admits a fiberwise Anosov diffeomorphism.

Theorem 3.1. *Let X be a closed simply connected manifold or a finite simply connected simplicial complex. Assume $M \rightarrow E \xrightarrow{p} X$ is an Anosov bundle. Then the bundle $p: E \rightarrow X$ is, in fact, topologically trivial.*

Theorem 3.2. *Let X be a closed manifold or a finite simplicial complex. Assume that $M \rightarrow E \xrightarrow{p} X$ is a fiber homotopically trivial Anosov bundle, whose fiber M is an infranilmanifold. Then the bundle $p: E \rightarrow X$ is, in fact, topologically trivial.*

Remark 3.3. In the above theorem the assumption that the bundle is fiber homotopically trivial is a necessary one. To see this let $A, B: \mathbb{T}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{T}^n$ be two commuting hyperbolic automorphisms. Then the bundle $\mathbb{T}^n \rightarrow E_A \xrightarrow{p} \mathbb{S}^1$, whose total space is defined as

$$E_A = \mathbb{T}^n \times [0, 1] / (x, 0) \sim (Ax, 1),$$

is Anosov. Indeed, the map

$$E_A \ni (x, t) \mapsto (Bx, t) \in E_A$$

is a fiberwise Anosov diffeomorphism.

Remark 3.4. Theorem 3.2 can be generalized to a wider class of bundles whose fiber M is only homeomorphic to an infranilmanifold. The modifications required in the proof are straightforward.

We will explain in Section 3.4 how results of [FG13] imply that there are “lots” of smooth, fiber homotopically trivial bundles $M \rightarrow E \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^d$ whose infranilmanifold fiber M supports an Anosov diffeomorphism, but which are not Anosov bundles (and are not topologically trivial).

Two fiber bundles $M_1 \rightarrow E_1 \xrightarrow{p_1} X$ and $M_2 \rightarrow E_2 \xrightarrow{p_2} X$ over the same base X are called *fiber homotopically equivalent* if there exists a fiber preserving continuous map $q: E_1 \rightarrow E_2$ covering id_X such that the restriction $q|_{M_{1,x}}: M_{1,x} \rightarrow M_{2,x}$ is a homotopy equivalence for each $x \in X$. Similarly, two fiber bundles $M_1 \rightarrow E_1 \xrightarrow{p_1} X$ and $M_2 \rightarrow E_2 \xrightarrow{p_2} X$ over the same base X are called *topologically equivalent* if there exists a fiber preserving homeomorphism $h: E_1 \rightarrow E_2$ covering id_X such that the restriction $h|_{M_{1,x}}: M_{1,x} \rightarrow M_{2,x}$ is a homeomorphism for each $x \in X$. Theorem 3.2 can be generalized to the setting of non-trivial fiber bundles in the following way.

Addendum 3.5. *Let X be a closed manifold or a finite simplicial complex. Assume that $M_1 \rightarrow E_1 \xrightarrow{p_1} X$ and $M_2 \rightarrow E_2 \xrightarrow{p_2} X$ are fiber homotopically equivalent Anosov fiber bundles over the same base X whose fibers M_1 and M_2 are nilmanifolds. Then the bundles $p_1: E_1 \rightarrow X$ and $p_2: E_2 \rightarrow X$ are, in fact, topologically equivalent.*

Remark 3.6. Addendum 3.5 can be generalized to a wider class of bundles whose fiber M_1 and M_2 are only homeomorphic to nilmanifolds. The modifications required in the proof are straightforward.

We prove Theorem 3.1 now and postpone the proofs of Theorem 3.2 and Addendum 3.5 to Section 6.

Proof of Theorem 3.1. Fix $x_0 \in X$. For each $x \in X$ consider a path $\gamma: [0, 1] \rightarrow X$ that connects x_0 to x . Because Anosov diffeomorphisms are structurally stable, for each $t \in [0, 1]$ there exists a neighborhood of t , $\mathcal{U} \subset [0, 1]$ and a continuous family of homeomorphisms $h_{s,t}: M_{\gamma(t)} \rightarrow M_{\gamma(s)}$ for $s \in \mathcal{U}$ such that

$$h_{t,t} = id_{M_{\gamma(t)}} \quad \text{and} \quad h_{s,t} \circ f_{\gamma(s)} = f_{\gamma(t)} \circ h_{s,t}.$$

Since $[0, 1]$ is compact we can find a finite sequence $0 = t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_N = 1$ and homeomorphisms h_{t_{i-1}, t_i} that conjugate $f_{\gamma(t_{i-1})}$ to $f_{\gamma(t_i)}$. Clearly

$$h_x = h_{t_{N-1}, t_N} \circ h_{t_{N-2}, t_{N-1}} \circ \dots \circ h_{t_0, t_1}$$

is a conjugacy between f_{x_0} and f_x . Because the “local” conjugacies $h_{s,t}$ are unique and depend continuously on s , the resulting homeomorphism $h_x: M_x \rightarrow M_{x_0}$ does not depend on the arbitrary choices that we made. Moreover, two homotopic paths that connect x_0 to x will yield the same homeomorphism h_x . Hence, since X is simply connected, h_x depends only on $x \in X$. It is also clear from the construction that h_x depends on x continuously. Therefore $E \ni y \mapsto h_{p(y)}(y) \in M_{x_0}$ gives the posited topological trivialization. \square

We will say that a smooth bundle $M \rightarrow E \xrightarrow{p} X$ is *smoothly trivial* if there exists a continuous map $r: E \rightarrow M$ such that the restriction $r|_{M_x}: M_x \rightarrow M$ is a diffeomorphism for each $x \in X$. If the base X is a smooth closed manifold then the total space is also a smooth manifold. (This can be seen by approximating fiberwise smooth transition functions between the charts of the bundle by smooth transition functions.) In this case, the trivialization r can be smoothed out so that the restrictions $r|_{M_x}: M_x \rightarrow M$ depend smoothly on $x \in X$. Hence, then map $E \rightarrow X \times M$ given by $y \mapsto (p(y), r_{p(y)}(y))$ is fiber preserving diffeomorphism.

Theorem 3.7. *For each $d \geq 2$ there exists a smooth Anosov bundle $\mathbb{T}^n \rightarrow E \xrightarrow{p} \mathbb{S}^d$ which is not smoothly trivial.*

Remark 3.8. The construction of examples of Anosov bundles for the above theorem relies on the idea of construction of “exotic” Anosov diffeomorphism from [FG12].

Addendum 3.9. *There exists smooth fiber homotopically trivial Anosov bundle $\mathbb{T}^n \rightarrow E \xrightarrow{p} \mathbb{S}^1$ which is not smoothly trivial.*

Remark 3.10. Note that Anosov bundles posited above are topologically trivial by Theorems 3.1 and 3.2.

Because the proof of Addendum 3.9 is virtually the same as the proof of Theorem 3.7 but requires some alternations in notation, we prove Theorem 3.7 only. To explain the construction of our examples of Anosov bundles we first need to present some background on the Kervaire-Milnor group of homotopy spheres.

3.1. Gromoll filtration of Kervaire-Milnor group. A *homotopy m -sphere* Σ is a smooth manifold which is homeomorphic to the standard m -sphere \mathbb{S}^m . Kervaire and Milnor showed that if $m \geq 5$ then the set of oriented diffeomorphisms classes of homotopy m -spheres forms a finite abelian group Θ_m under the connected sum operation [KM63].

One way to realize the elements of Θ_m is through so called twist sphere construction. A *twist sphere* Σ_g is obtained from two copies of a closed disk \mathbb{D}^m by pasting the boundaries together using an orientation preserving diffeomorphism $g: \mathbb{S}^{m-1} \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^{m-1}$. We will denote by $\text{Diff}(\cdot)$ the space of orientation preserving diffeomorphisms. It is easy to see that the map $\text{Diff}(\mathbb{S}^{m-1}) \ni g \mapsto \Sigma_g \in \Theta_m$ factors through to a homomorphism

$$\pi_0 \text{Diff}(\mathbb{S}^{m-1}) \rightarrow \Theta_m,$$

which was known to be a group isomorphisms for $m \geq 6$ [C61].

Fix $l \in [0, m-1]$ and view the $(m-1)$ -disk \mathbb{D}^{m-1} as the product $\mathbb{D}^l \times \mathbb{D}^{m-1-l}$. Let $\text{Diff}_l(\mathbb{D}^{m-1}, \partial)$ be the group of diffeomorphisms of the $(m-1)$ -disk that preserve first l -coordinates and are identity in a neighborhood of the boundary $\partial \mathbb{D}^{m-1}$. Then we have

$$\text{Diff}_l(\mathbb{D}^{m-1}, \partial) \hookrightarrow \text{Diff}(\mathbb{D}^{m-1}, \partial) \hookrightarrow \text{Diff}(\mathbb{S}^{m-1}),$$

where the last inclusion is induced by a fixed embedding $\mathbb{D}^{m-1} \hookrightarrow \mathbb{S}^{m-1}$. These inclusions induce homomorphisms of corresponding groups of connected components

$$\pi_0 \text{Diff}_l(\mathbb{D}^{m-1}, \partial) \hookrightarrow \pi_0 \text{Diff}(\mathbb{D}^{m-1}, \partial) \hookrightarrow \pi_0 \text{Diff}(\mathbb{S}^{m-1}) \simeq \Theta_m.$$

The image of $\pi_0 \text{Diff}_l(\mathbb{D}^{m-1}, \partial)$ in Θ_m does not depend on the choice of the embedding $\mathbb{D}^{m-1} \hookrightarrow \mathbb{S}^{m-1}$ and is called the *Gromoll subgroup* Γ_{l+1}^m . Gromoll subgroups form a filtration

$$\Theta_m = \Gamma_1^m \supseteq \Gamma_2^m \supseteq \dots \supseteq \Gamma_m^m = 0.$$

Cerf [C61] proved that $\Gamma_1^m = \Gamma_2^m$ for $m \geq 6$. Higher Gromoll subgroups are also known to be non-trivial in many cases, see [ABK70]; see also [FO09]. In particular, $\Gamma_{2u-2}^{4u-1} \neq 0$ for $u \geq 4$.

3.2. Proof of Theorem 3.7: construction of the bundle. Fix an Anosov automorphism $L: \mathbb{T}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{T}^n$ whose unstable distribution E^u has dimension k . Let q be a fixed point of L . Choose a small product structure neighborhood $U \simeq \mathbb{D}^k \times \mathbb{D}^{n-k}$ in the proximity of fixed point q so that $L(U)$ and U are disjoint. Also choose an embedded disk $\mathbb{D}^{d-1} \hookrightarrow \mathbb{S}^{d-1}$. Then we have the product embedding $i: \mathbb{D}^{d-1} \times \mathbb{D}^k \times \mathbb{D}^{n-k} \hookrightarrow \mathbb{S}^{d-1} \times \mathbb{T}^n$.

Now pick a diffeomorphism $\alpha \in \text{Diff}_{k+d-1}(\mathbb{D}^{n+d-1}, \partial)$, consider $i \circ \alpha \circ i^{-1}$ and extend it by identity to a diffeomorphism $\alpha_1: \mathbb{S}^{d-1} \times \mathbb{T}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^{d-1} \times \mathbb{T}^n$. Now we employ the standard clutching construction, that is, we paste together the boundaries $\mathbb{D}_-^d \times \mathbb{T}^n$ and $\mathbb{D}_+^d \times \mathbb{T}^n$ using $\alpha_1: \partial \mathbb{D}_-^d \times \mathbb{T}^n \rightarrow \partial \mathbb{D}_+^d \times \mathbb{T}^n$. This way we obtain a smooth bundle $\mathbb{T}^n \rightarrow E_\alpha \xrightarrow{p} \mathbb{S}^d$. Clearly this bundle does not depend on the choice of the product neighborhood U and the choice of embedding $\mathbb{D}^{d-1} \hookrightarrow \mathbb{S}^{d-1}$, *i.e.*, on the choice of embedding i .

Proposition 3.11. *If $[\alpha] \neq 0$ in the group Γ_{k+d}^{n+d} , $d \geq 2$, then $\mathbb{T}^n \rightarrow E_\alpha \xrightarrow{p} \mathbb{S}^d$ is not smoothly trivial.*

Proof. Detailed proofs of similar results were given in [FJ89] and [FO09]. So we will only sketch the proof of this result; but enough to show how it follows from arguments in [FJ89] and [FO09].

Our proof proceeds by assuming that there exists a fiber preserving diffeomorphism $f: E_\alpha \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}^n$ and showing that this assumption leads to a contradiction. One may assume that $f|_{\mathbb{D}_-^d \times \mathbb{T}^n}$ is the identity map (we view $\mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}^n$ as $\mathbb{D}_-^d \times \mathbb{T}^n$ and $\mathbb{D}_+^d \times \mathbb{T}^n$ glued together using the identity map). Also note that, by the Alexander trick, there is a “canonical” homeomorphism $g: E_\alpha \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}^n$ which is fiber preserving and satisfies $g|_{\mathbb{D}_-^d \times \mathbb{T}^n} = \text{id}$. One also easily sees that E_α is diffeomorphic to $\mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}^n \# \Sigma_\alpha$ and that under this identification g becomes the “obvious homeomorphism”

$$\mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}^n \# \Sigma_\alpha \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}^n.$$

Here, Σ_α is the exotic twist sphere of α .

Now f and g are two smoothings of the topological manifold $\mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}^n$. Recall that a homeomorphism

$$\varphi: N \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}^n,$$

where N is a closed smooth $(d+n)$ -dimensional manifold, is called a *smoothing* of $\mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}^n$. Two smoothings $\varphi_i: N_i \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}^n$, $i = 0, 1$, are *equivalent* if there exists a diffeomorphism $\psi: N_0 \rightarrow N_1$ such that the composite $\varphi_1 \circ \psi$ is *topologically pseudo-isotopic* (or *concordant*) to φ_0 ; *i.e.*, there exists a homeomorphism

$$\Phi: N_0 \times [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}^n \times [0, 1]$$

such that $\Phi|_{N_0 \times \{i\}}: N_0 \times \{i\} \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}^n \times \{i\}$ is φ_0 if $i = 0$ and $\varphi_1 \circ \psi$ if $i = 1$.

Since $\mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}^n$ is stably parallelizable, it is well-known that the smoothing $g: \mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}^n \# \Sigma_\alpha \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}^n$ is inequivalent to the “trivial smoothing” $\text{id}: \mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}^n$; cf. [FJ89] or [FO09]. But the smoothing $f: E_\alpha \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}^n$ is obviously equivalent to $\text{id}: \mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}^n$, since f is a diffeomorphism. Therefore, f and g are inequivalent smoothings of $\mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}^n$.

We now proceed to contradict this assertion. Since $f|_{\mathbb{D}_-^d \times \mathbb{T}^n} = g|_{\mathbb{D}_-^d \times \mathbb{T}^n}$, it suffices to show that $f|_{\mathbb{D}_+^d \times \mathbb{T}^n}$ is topologically pseudo-isotopic to $g|_{\mathbb{D}_+^d \times \mathbb{T}^n}$ relative to boundary. But this follows from the basic Hsiang-Wall topological rigidity result [HW69] that the homotopy-topological structure set $\mathcal{S}(\mathbb{D}^k \times \mathbb{T}^n, \partial)$ contains exactly one element when $k+n \geq 5$ together with the fact (mentioned in the proof of Proposition 1.4) that $\pi_i G(\mathbb{T}^n) = 0$ for all $i > 1$. \square

In the proof above we only used the assumption that diffeomorphism $f: E_\alpha \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}^n$ is fiber preserving in order to be able to assume that $f|_{\mathbb{D}_-^d \times \mathbb{T}^n}$ is identity.

Notice that this step also works for diffeomorphisms which are fiber preserving only over the southern hemisphere \mathbb{D}_-^d of \mathbb{S}^d . Hence, from the above proof, we conclude that there does not exist a diffeomorphism $E_\alpha \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}^n$ which is fiber preserving over the southern hemisphere \mathbb{D}_-^d of \mathbb{S}^d . This observation justifies the following definition. A smooth bundle $\mathbb{T}^n \rightarrow E \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^d$ is *weakly smoothly trivial* if there exists a diffeomorphism $E \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}^n$ which is fiber preserving over the southern hemisphere \mathbb{D}_-^d of \mathbb{S}^d . By the above observation, we have the following somewhat stronger result.

Addendum 3.12. *If $[\alpha] \neq 0$ in the group Γ_{k+d}^{n+d} , $d \geq 2$, then $\mathbb{T}^n \rightarrow E_\alpha \xrightarrow{p} \mathbb{S}^d$ is not even weakly smoothly trivial.*

This result will be used in Section 4 while proving Theorem 4.5.

3.3. Proof of Theorem 3.7: construction of the fiberwise Anosov diffeomorphism. For each $(x, y) \in \mathbb{D}_+^d \times \mathbb{T}^n$ define

$$f(x, y) = (x, L(y)).$$

Because of clutching we automatically have

$$f(x, y) = \alpha_1 \circ \bar{L} \circ \alpha_1^{-1}(x, y), \quad (3.1)$$

where $(x, y) \in \partial \mathbb{D}_+^d \times \mathbb{T}^n$ and $\bar{L}: \mathbb{S}^{d-1} \times \mathbb{T}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^{d-1} \times \mathbb{T}^n$ is given by $(x, y) \mapsto (x, L(y))$. Hence it remains to extend f to the interior of the disk \mathbb{D}_+^d .

Take a smooth path of embeddings $i_t: \mathbb{D}^{d-1} \times \mathbb{D}^k \times \mathbb{D}^{n-k} \hookrightarrow \mathbb{S}^{d-1} \times \mathbb{T}^n$, $t \in [0, 1]$, that satisfies the following properties.

1. $i_t = \bar{L} \circ i$ for all $t \in [0, \delta]$, where $\delta > 0$ is small;
2. $i_1 = i$;
3. $p \circ i_t = p \circ i$ for all $t \in [0, 1]$;
4. the images $\text{Im}(i_t)$, $t \in [0, 1]$, belong to a small neighborhood of $\mathbb{S}^{d-1} \times \{q\}$, but do not intersect $\mathbb{S}^{d-1} \times \{q\}$;
5. $i_t(x, \cdot, \cdot): \mathbb{D}^k \times \mathbb{D}^{n-k} \rightarrow \{x\} \times \mathbb{T}^n$ is a local product structure chart for $L: \mathbb{T}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{T}^n$ for all $t \in [0, 1]$ and $x \in \mathbb{D}^{d-1}$.

Denote by $\alpha_t: \mathbb{S}^{d-1} \times \mathbb{T}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^{d-1} \times \mathbb{T}^n$ the composition $i_t \circ \alpha \circ i_t^{-1}$ extended by identity to the rest of $\mathbb{S}^{d-1} \times \mathbb{T}^n$.

Now we use polar coordinates (r, φ) on \mathbb{D}_+^d , $r \in [0, 1]$, $\varphi \in \mathbb{S}^{d-1}$, to extend f to the interior of \mathbb{D}_+^d . Let

$$f((r, \varphi), y) = \alpha_r \circ \bar{L} \circ \alpha_1^{-1}((r, \varphi), y).$$

When $r = 1$ this definition is clearly consistent with (3.1). When $r \in [0, \delta]$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} f((r, \cdot), \cdot) &= \alpha_r \circ \bar{L} \circ \alpha_1^{-1} = i_r \circ \alpha \circ i_r^{-1} \circ \bar{L} \circ i_0 \circ \alpha \circ i_0^{-1} \circ (\bar{L} \circ i_1) \circ \alpha^{-1} \circ i_1^{-1} \\ &= i_0 \circ \alpha \circ i_0^{-1} \circ i_0 \circ \alpha^{-1} \circ i_1^{-1} = i_0 \circ i_1^{-1} = \bar{L}, \end{aligned}$$

for points in the image of i_1 and it is obvious that $f((r, \cdot), \cdot) = \bar{L}$ outside of the image of i_1 . Note that because the path α_r is locally constant at $r = 0$ diffeomorphism f is smooth at $r = 0$.

Therefore we have constructed a fiber preserving diffeomorphism $f: E_\alpha \rightarrow E_\alpha$. The restrictions to the fibers $f_x: \mathbb{T}_x^n \rightarrow \mathbb{T}_x^n$ are clearly Anosov when $x \in \mathbb{D}_+^d$ or close to the origin of \mathbb{D}_+^d . Note that our construction depends on the choice of the diffeomorphism $\alpha \in \text{Diff}_{k+d-1}(\mathbb{D}^{n+d-1}, \partial)$, the choice of embedding i and the choice of isotopy i_t , $t \in [0, 1]$.

Proposition 3.13. *For each number $d \geq 2$, each Anosov automorphism $L: \mathbb{T}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{T}^n$ whose unstable distribution is k -dimensional and each diffeomorphism $\alpha \in \text{Diff}_{k+d-1}(\mathbb{D}^{n+d-1}, \partial)$ there exists an embedding $i: \mathbb{D}^{d-1} \times \mathbb{D}^k \times \mathbb{D}^{n-k} \hookrightarrow \mathbb{S}^{d-1} \times \mathbb{T}^n$ and an isotopy i_t , $t \in [0, 1]$ such that the fiber preserving diffeomorphism $f = f(\alpha, i, i_t): E_\alpha \rightarrow E_\alpha$ of the total space of the fiber bundle $\mathbb{T}^n \rightarrow E_\alpha \xrightarrow{p} \mathbb{S}^d$ is a fiberwise Anosov diffeomorphism.*

Clearly Propositions 3.11 and 3.13 together with non-triviality results for Gromoll subgroups imply Theorem 3.7.

Sketch of the proof of Proposition 3.13. Let h be the round metric on \mathbb{S}^{d-1} and g be the flat metric on \mathbb{T}^n . Choose and fix an embedding $i: \mathbb{D}^{d-1} \times \mathbb{D}^k \times \mathbb{D}^{n-k} \hookrightarrow \mathbb{S}^{d-1} \times \mathbb{T}^n$ and isotopy i_t , $t \in [0, 1]$ that satisfy properties 1-5 listed in Subsection 3.3. Then for some small $\varepsilon > 0$ and all $t \in [0, 1]$

$$\text{Im}(i_t) \in V_\varepsilon^{h+g}(\mathbb{S}^{d-1} \times \{q\}),$$

where $V_\varepsilon^{h+g}(\mathbb{S}^{d-1} \times \{q\})$ is the ε -neighborhood of $\mathbb{S}^{d-1} \times \{q\}$ in $\mathbb{S}^{d-1} \times \mathbb{T}^n$ equipped with Riemannian metric $h + g$. (Recall that q is a fixed point of L .)

For each $m \geq 1$ consider the Riemannian metric $h + mg$ and corresponding ε -neighborhood $V_\varepsilon^{h+mg}(\mathbb{S}^{d-1} \times \{q\})$. These neighborhoods are isometric in an obvious way

$$I: V_\varepsilon^{h+g}(\mathbb{S}^{d-1} \times \{q\}) \rightarrow V_\varepsilon^{h+mg}(\mathbb{S}^{d-1} \times \{q\})$$

Then there is a unique choice of embeddings i_t^m , $t \in [0, 1]$, that makes the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{D}^{d-1} \times \mathbb{D}^k \times \mathbb{D}^{n-k} & \xrightarrow{i_t} & V_\varepsilon^{h+g}(\mathbb{S}^{d-1} \times \{q\}) \\ & \searrow i_t^m & \downarrow I \\ & & V_\varepsilon^{h+mg}(\mathbb{S}^{d-1} \times \{q\}) \end{array}$$

commute. The following lemma clearly yields Proposition 3.13.

Lemma 3.14. For a sufficiently large number $m \geq 1$ the diffeomorphism $f = f(\alpha, i^m, i_t^m): E_\alpha \rightarrow E_\alpha$ constructed following the procedure of Subsection 3.3 is a fiberwise Anosov diffeomorphism.

We do not provide a detailed proof of this lemma because a very similar argument was given in Section 3.3 of [FG12].

The first step is to notice that the unstable foliation \mathcal{W}_L^u of $L: \mathbb{T}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{T}^n$ is invariant under the restrictions to the fiber $f_x: \mathbb{T}_x^n \rightarrow \mathbb{T}_x^n$, $x \in \mathbb{D}_+^d$. This is because $i_t^m \circ \alpha \circ (i_t^m)^{-1}$ preserves foliation \mathcal{W}_L^u . Then one argues that for a sufficiently large m the return time (under f_x) to $\cup_{t \in [0, 1]} \text{Im}(i_t)$ is large, which implies that \mathcal{W}_L^u is indeed an expanding foliation for f_x .

The second step is to employ a standard cone argument to show that there exists an Df_x -invariant stable distribution transverse to $T\mathcal{W}_L^u$. \square

3.4. Non-Anosov fiber homotopically trivial bundles. The following result demonstrates that the assumption “ $M \rightarrow E \rightarrow X$ is an Anosov bundle” in Theorem 3.2 cannot be replaced by the assumption “the fiber M supports an Anosov diffeomorphism.”

Theorem 3.15 (cf. Theorem 1.6). *Let M be any infranilmanifold that has dimension ≥ 10 , supports an affine Anosov diffeomorphism and has non-zero first Betti number. Then for each prime p there exists a smooth bundle $M \rightarrow E \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^{2p-3}$ such that*

1. *the bundle $M \rightarrow E \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^{2p-3}$ is fiber homotopically trivial;*
2. *the bundle $M \rightarrow E \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^{2p-3}$ is not topologically trivial (and, hence, is not Anosov by Theorem 3.2).*

For the proof of Theorem 3.15 we need to recall the clutching construction which we use as a way to create fiber bundles over spheres. Let \mathbb{S}^d , $d \geq 2$, be a sphere, let N be a closed manifold and let $\alpha: \mathbb{S}^{d-1} \rightarrow \text{Diff}(N)$ be a map. Let \mathbb{D}_-^d and \mathbb{D}_+^d be the southern and the northern hemispheres of \mathbb{S}^d , respectively. Consider manifolds $\mathbb{D}_-^d \times N$ and $\mathbb{D}_+^d \times N$ as trivial fiber bundles with fiber N . Note that there boundaries are both diffeomorphic to $\mathbb{S}^{d-1} \times N$.

Now define diffeomorphism $\bar{\alpha}: \mathbb{S}^{d-1} \times N \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^{d-1} \times N$ by the formula

$$(x, y) \mapsto (x, \alpha(x)(y)).$$

Clutching with α amounts to pasting together the boundaries of $\mathbb{D}_-^d \times N$ and $\mathbb{D}_+^d \times N$ using $\bar{\alpha}$. The resulting manifold E is naturally a total space of smooth fiber bundle $N \rightarrow E \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^d$ because diffeomorphism $\bar{\alpha}$ maps fibers to fibers.

Proof. We first consider the case when $p > 2$. The assumptions (on the infranilmanifold M) of Proposition 5 of [FG13] are satisfied and we obtain a class $[\alpha] \in \pi_{2p-4}(\text{Diff}_0(M))$ whose image under the natural inclusion $\pi_{2p-4}(\text{Diff}_0(M)) \rightarrow \pi_{2p-4}(\text{Top}_0(M))$ is non-zero. Then clutching with $\alpha: \mathbb{S}^{2p-4} \rightarrow \text{Diff}_0(M)$ yields a smooth bundle $M \rightarrow E \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^{2p-3}$ which is not topologically trivial.

On the other hand, by (1.1), the image of α in $\pi_{2p-4}(G_0(M))$ is zero. Hence $M \rightarrow E \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^{2p-3}$ is fiber homotopically trivial.

The case when $p = 2$ is analogous and uses Proposition 4 of [FG13]. □

4. BUNDLES ADMITTING FIBERWISE ANOSOV FLOWS

Here we generalize Theorems 1.3 and 1.5 to the setting of abstract Anosov flows.

Theorem 4.1. *Let X be a closed simply connected manifold or a finite simply connected simplicial complex and let $p: E \rightarrow X$ be a fiber bundle whose fiber M is a closed manifold. Assume that E admits a C^∞ flow which leaves the fiber M_x , $x \in X$, invariant and the restrictions of this flow to the fibers $g_x^t: M_x \rightarrow M_x$, $x \in X$, are transitive Anosov flows. Then the bundle $p: E \rightarrow X$ is topologically trivial.*

Theorem 4.2. *Let X be a closed manifold or finite simplicial complex and $p: E \rightarrow X$ be a fiber homotopically trivial bundle whose fiber M is a closed manifold. Assume that E admits a C^∞ flow which leaves the fibers M_x , $x \in X$, invariant and the restrictions of this flow to the fibers $g_x^t: M_x \rightarrow M_x$, $x \in X$, satisfy the following conditions*

1. *flows $g_x^t: M_x \rightarrow M_x$ are transitive Anosov flows;*
2. *flows $g_x^t: M_x \rightarrow M_x$ do not have freely homotopic periodic orbits.*

Then the bundle $p: E \rightarrow X$ is topologically trivial.

Remark 4.3. We only consider free homotopies of periodic orbits that preserve flow direction of the orbits. This way geodesic flows on negatively curved manifolds do not have freely homotopic periodic orbits.

Remark 4.4. By applying structural stability we see that the flows g_x^t are all orbit equivalent. Hence if assumption 2 of Theorem 4.2 holds for one $x_0 \in X$ then it automatically holds for all $x \in X$.

Theorem 4.1 obviously implies Theorem 1.3. Let us also explain how Theorem 4.2 implies Theorem 1.5. The associated sphere bundle $S(p): SE \rightarrow X$ is fiber homotopically trivial by Remark 1.7. The total space SE is equipped with fiberwise geodesic flow g^t . The flows on the fibers g_x^t , $x \in X$, are Anosov. Moreover they are transitive because they are ergodic with respect to fully supported Liouville measures by the work of Anosov [An69]. Finally, assumption 2 of Theorem 4.2 is satisfied because each free homotopy class of loops on a negatively curved manifold contains only one closed geodesic (which yields two periodic orbits which are not homotopic as oriented periodic orbits).

Another example of Anosov flow which satisfies assumption 2 of Theorem 4.2 is the suspension flow of an Anosov diffeomorphism of an infranilmanifold.

Theorem 4.5. *For any $d \geq 2$ there exists a smoothly non-trivial fiber bundle $M \rightarrow E' \xrightarrow{p'} \mathbb{S}^d$ which admits fiberwise Anosov flow which satisfies the assumptions of Theorem 4.2.*

This result is analogous to (and is based on) Theorem 3.7.

For expository reasons we present the proof of Theorem 4.2 ahead of the proof of Theorem 4.1. Then we complete this section with the proof Theorem 4.5.

Proof of Theorem 4.2. Let $q: E \rightarrow M$ be a fiber homotopy trivialization. We identify M with a particular fiber $M_{x_0} = p^{-1}(x_0)$. Then we can assume without loss of generality that $q|_M: M \rightarrow M$ is homotopic to identity. We will abbreviate the notation for the Anosov flow $g_{x_0}^t$ on $M_{x_0} = M$ to simply g^t . We use Y to denote the Anosov vector field on M defined by

$$Y(a) = \left. \frac{dg^t(a)}{dt} \right|_{t=0}, \quad a \in M.$$

Similarly Y_x denotes the generating vector field for g_x^t , $x \in X$.

For each $x \in X$ consider the space F_x of all homeomorphisms $\varphi: M \rightarrow M_x$ which satisfy the following properties.

- P1. $\varphi: M \rightarrow M_x$ is an orbit conjugacy between g^t and g_x^t , which preserves the flow direction;
- P2. the map $q \circ \varphi$ is homotopic to id_M ;
- P3. $\varphi: M \rightarrow M_x$ is bi-Hölder continuous, i.e., both φ and φ^{-1} are Hölder continuous with some positive Hölder exponent (which can depend on φ);
- P4. $\varphi: M \rightarrow M_x$ is differentiable along Y ; moreover, the derivative $\varphi': M \rightarrow R$ along Y defined by

$$D\varphi(a)Y(a) = \varphi'(a)Y_x(\varphi(a))$$

is a positive Hölder continuous function (whose Hölder exponent depends on φ).

Remark 4.6. Note that if $\varphi \in F_x$ then $\varphi^{-1}: M_x \rightarrow M$ is differentiable along Y_x . Moreover the derivative of φ^{-1} along Y_x is given by $1/\varphi' \circ \varphi^{-1}$ and hence is also Hölder continuous.

In particular, we have defined the space $F \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} F_{x_0}$ of self orbit conjugacies of g^t that are homotopic to identity and satisfy regularity properties P3 and P4. It is routine to check that F is a non-empty group when equipped with composition operation. By the same routine check F acts on F_x by pre-composition.

Lemma 4.7. The action of F on the space F_x is free and transitive for each $x \in X$.

Proof. Fix $x \in X$. It is obvious that F acts freely on F_x .

Now we check that F_x is non-empty. Consider a path $\gamma: [0, 1] \rightarrow X$ that connects x_0 to x . Then we have a one parameter family of Anosov flows $g_{\gamma(s)}^t$, $s \in [0, 1]$. By the structural stability, each $s \in [0, 1]$ has a neighborhood $\mathcal{U} \subset [0, 1]$ such that for each $r \in \mathcal{U}$ the flow $g_{\gamma(s)}^t$ is orbit conjugate to $g_{\gamma(r)}^t$ via orbit conjugacy $\xi_{s,r}$ which is C^0 close to identity (in a chart). This orbit conjugacy is bi-Hölder and it is easy to choose it so that it is differentiable along $Y_{\gamma(s)}$. The fact that $\xi_{s,r}$ can be chosen so that the derivative of $\xi_{s,r}$ along $Y_{\gamma(s)}$ is Hölder continuous is more subtle. One way to see this is from the proof of structural stability via the implicit function theorem, see *e.g.*, [LMM86, Theorem A.1], where continuity of the derivative of $\xi_{s,r}$ along $Y_{\gamma(s)}$ is established. The same proof goes through to yield Hölder continuity, see [KKPW89, Proposition 2.2]. (Note that at this point we do not care about dependence of $\xi_{s,r}$ on the parameter r .) Next, since $[0, 1]$ is compact, we can find a finite sequence $0 = s_0 < s_1 < \dots < s_N = 1$ and orbit conjugacies ξ_{s_{i-1}, s_i} between $g_{\gamma(s_{i-1})}^t$ and $g_{\gamma(s_i)}^t$, $i = 1 \dots N$. Then it is clear that

$$\varphi_x \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \xi_{s_{N-1}, s_N} \circ \xi_{s_{N-2}, s_{N-1}} \circ \dots \circ \xi_{s_1, s_0}$$

belongs to the space F_x .

We proceed to checking that F acts transitively on F_x . Take any $\psi \in F_x$. Then, since $\psi = \varphi_x \circ (\varphi_x^{-1} \circ \psi)$, we only need to check that $\varphi_x^{-1} \circ \psi \in F$. Clearly $\varphi_x^{-1} \circ \psi$ satisfies properties P1, P3 and P4. Property P2 also holds. Indeed,

$$\varphi_x^{-1} \circ \psi \simeq \varphi_x^{-1} \circ id_{M_x} \circ \psi \simeq \varphi_x^{-1} \circ (q|_{M_x})^{-1} \circ q|_{M_x} \circ \psi \simeq id_M \circ id_M = id_M.$$

(Here $(q|_{M_x})^{-1}$ stands for a homotopy inverse of $q|_{M_x}$).

□

Let

$$\mathcal{F}(X) = \bigsqcup_{x \in X} F_x.$$

We equip $\mathcal{F}(X)$ with C^0 topology using charts of $p: E \rightarrow X$. Group F acts on $\mathcal{F}(X)$ by pre-composition. Clearly this action is continuous.

Lemma 4.8 (Parametrized structural stability). For each $x \in X$ there exists a neighborhood \mathcal{U} of x and a continuous family of homeomorphisms $\xi_z: M_x \rightarrow M_z$, $z \in \mathcal{U}$, such that

1. $\xi_x = id_{M_x}$;
2. ξ_z is an orbit conjugacy between g_x^t and g_z^t for each $z \in \mathcal{U}$;
3. ξ_z is bi-Hölder continuous for each $z \in \mathcal{U}$;
4. ξ_z is differentiable along Y_x for all $z \in \mathcal{U}$; moreover, the derivative of ξ_z along Y_x is Hölder continuous and depends continuously on z , $z \in \mathcal{U}$.

Remark 4.9. In fact, dependence on $z \in \mathcal{U}$ is smooth, but we won't need it.

By using a chart about x for the bundle $p: E \rightarrow X$ one readily reduces Lemma 4.8 to a lemma about a smooth multi-parameter family of Anosov flows on M_x . In this form Lemma 4.8 was proved in [KKPW89, Proposition 2.2] using Moser's implicit function theorem approach to structural stability. A more detailed proof is in [LMM86, Theorem A.1], however [LMM86] does not address Hölder continuity of the derivative along the flow. Both [KKPW89] and [LMM86] treat one parameter families of Anosov flows but the proof can be adapted to multi-parameter setting in a straightforward way.

Lemma 4.10. The map $\mathcal{F}(p): \mathcal{F}(X) \rightarrow X$ that assigns to each $\varphi \in F_x \subset \mathcal{F}(X)$ its base-point x is a locally trivial principal fiber bundle with structure group F .

Proof. Take any $x \in X$. Then Lemma 4.8 gives a neighborhood \mathcal{U} and a continuous family of homeomorphisms $\xi_z: M_x \rightarrow M_z$, $z \in \mathcal{U}$. Consider a chart $\mathcal{U} \times F \rightarrow \mathcal{F}(p)^{-1}(\mathcal{U})$ given by

$$(z, \varphi) \mapsto \xi_z \circ \varphi_x \circ \varphi.$$

By Lemma 4.8 this chart is continuous. By Lemma 4.7 it is injective and surjective. Also it is easy to see that the inverse is continuous. Finally, Lemma 4.7 also implies that $\mathcal{F}(p): \mathcal{F}(X) \rightarrow X$ is a principal bundle with respect to the fiberwise action of F by pre-composition. \square

Lemma 4.11. Group F is contractible.

This lemma implies that the bundle $\mathcal{F}(p): \mathcal{F}(X) \rightarrow X$ has a global (continuous) cross-section $\sigma: X \rightarrow \mathcal{F}(X)$ (and hence is a trivial bundle). Define $\tau: X \times M \rightarrow E$ by

$$\tau(x, a) = \sigma(x)(a).$$

Clearly τ is a fiber preserving homeomorphism. The inverse τ^{-1} is the posited topological trivialization. Hence in order to finish the proof we only need to establish Lemma 4.11.

Proof of Lemma 4.11. Let γ be a periodic orbit of $g^t: M \rightarrow M$ and let $\varphi \in F$. Then $\varphi(\gamma)$ is also a periodic orbit which is homotopic to γ . Hence, by assumption 2 of the theorem, $\varphi(\gamma) = \gamma$ for each periodic orbit γ and each $\varphi \in F$.

Pick a $\varphi \in F$ and recall that according to Remark 4.6 φ^{-1} is differentiable along Y with a Hölder continuous derivative $(\varphi^{-1})'$. By applying Newton-Leibniz formula we obtain the following statement.

Claim 4.12. *For every periodic orbit γ*

$$\int_0^{T(\gamma)} (\varphi^{-1})'(\gamma(t)) dt = T(\gamma),$$

where $T(\gamma)$ is the period of γ .

Therefore the integral of $(\varphi^{-1})' - 1$ over each periodic orbit vanishes. Recall also that g^t is a transitive Anosov flow. Hence we can apply the Livshitz Theorem (see, e.g., [KH95, Theorem 19.2.1]) to $(\varphi^{-1})' - 1$ and conclude that this function is a coboundary; that is, there exists a Hölder continuous function $\alpha: M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ which is differentiable along Y and

$$\alpha' = (\varphi^{-1})' - 1, \tag{4.1}$$

where α' is the derivative of α along Y .

Define the following homotopy along the orbits of g^t

$$\varphi_s(x) = g^{s\alpha(x)}(\varphi(x)), \quad s \in [0, 1] \quad (4.2)$$

Clearly $\varphi_0 = \varphi$. Now we calculate the derivative of φ_1 along Y

$$\varphi_1'(x) = (g^{\alpha(x)})'(\varphi(x))\varphi'(x) = (1 + \alpha'(\varphi(x)))\varphi'(x) \stackrel{(4.1)}{=} (\varphi^{-1})'(\varphi(x))\varphi'(x) = 1.$$

Thus φ_1 is time preserving self orbit conjugacy of g^t , *i.e.*, φ_1 is a true self conjugacy. Also it clear from (4.2) that φ_1 and φ coincide on the space of orbits and hence, $\varphi_1(\gamma) = \gamma$ for every periodic orbit γ . Hence we are able to apply the main result of [JH91] to conclude that $\varphi_1 = g^{t_0}$ for some $t_0 \in \mathbb{R}$.

When $s = 1$ equation (4.2) becomes

$$g^{t_0}(x) = g^{\alpha(x)}(\varphi(x))$$

or

$$\varphi(x) = g^{t_0 - \alpha(x)}(x).$$

Hence for each $\varphi \in F$ there exists a continuous function $\beta_\varphi: M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $\varphi = g^{\beta_\varphi}$.

Claim 4.13. *The map $F \ni \varphi \mapsto \beta_\varphi \in C^0(M, \mathbb{R})$ is continuous.*

Proof. Let $\rho > 0$ be the constant associated to the local product structure of the stable and unstable foliations of g^t .

Assume that φ is a discontinuity point of the map $\varphi \mapsto \beta_\varphi$. Then there exists $\varepsilon > 0$ and $\psi \in F$ such that

$$d_{C^0}(\varphi, \psi) < \varepsilon \quad \text{and} \quad d_{C^0}(\beta_\varphi, \beta_\psi) > 2\varepsilon. \quad (4.3)$$

We can assume that $\varepsilon \ll \rho$.

Pick a point $x \in M$ such that $|\beta_\varphi(x) - \beta_\psi(x)| > 2\varepsilon$. Consider a neighborhood \mathcal{U} of size ρ about $\varphi(x)$. Let $\mathcal{O}(x) = \{g^t(x) : t \in \mathbb{R}\}$. Then $\psi(x) \in \mathcal{O}(x) \cap \mathcal{U}$. By (4.3) points $\psi(x)$ and $\varphi(x)$ belong to different connected components of $\mathcal{O}(x) \cap \mathcal{U}$ as indicated on Figure 1. It follows that, in fact, $|\beta_\varphi(x) - \beta_\psi(x)| > \rho$.

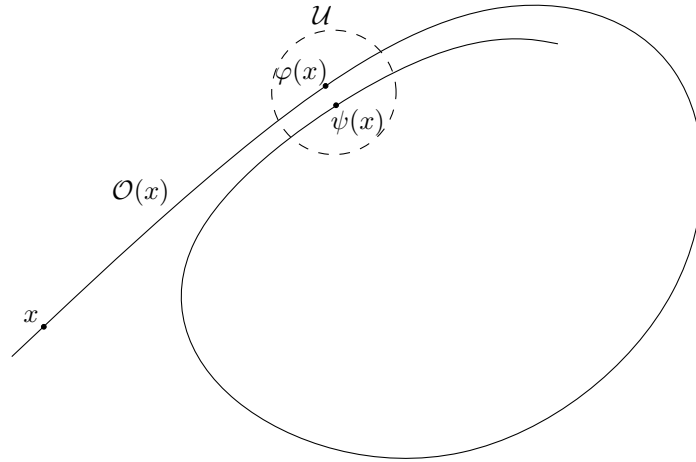


FIGURE 1.

By continuity the picture on Figure 1 is robust. Therefore we can perturb x (we continue to denote this perturbation by x) to ensure that $\mathcal{O}^+(x) = \{g^t(x) : t \geq 0\}$ is dense in M .

Note that as a point y moves along $\mathcal{O}^+(x)$ the points $\varphi(y)$ and $\psi(y)$ sweep the positive semi-orbits $\mathcal{O}^+(\varphi(x))$ and $\mathcal{O}^+(\psi(x))$ respectively. But $d(\varphi(y), \psi(y)) < \varepsilon$ for all y . Hence the picture in the local product structure neighborhood of $\varphi(y)$ remains the same as y moves along $\mathcal{O}^+(x)$. We conclude that $\psi(x)$ belongs to the weak stable manifold of $\varphi(x)$. Hence the distance from $\psi(y)$ to the local orbit $\{g^t(\varphi(y)) : t \in (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon)\}$ goes to zero as y moves along $\mathcal{O}^+(x)$. Because $\mathcal{O}^+(x)$ is dense, we have that, in fact, the distance between $\psi(z)$ and the local orbit $\{g^t(\varphi(z)) : t \in (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon)\}$ is zero for all $z \in M$. This means that $d_{C^0}(\beta_\varphi, \beta_\psi) < \varepsilon$, which yields a contradiction. \square

Define $\Delta: [0, 1] \times F \rightarrow F$ by

$$\Delta_s(\varphi) = g^{(1-s)\beta_\varphi}.$$

Claim 4.13 implies that Δ is continuous. Clearly $\Delta_0 = id_F$ and Δ_1 maps F to id_M . Hence Δ deformation retracts F to a point. This finishes the proof of Lemma 4.11 and, hence, the proof of Theorem 4.2. \square

Proof of Theorem 4.1. A substantial part of the proof is exactly the same as in the preceding proof, yet there some very different ingredients which, in particular, allow to avoid the use of the assumption on non-homotopic periodic orbits of Theorem 4.2 and utilize triviality of $\pi_1(X)$ instead. In order to keep the exposition coherent we have allowed a few repetitions from the preceding proof.

As before, we fix a base-point $x_0 \in X$ and identify M with $M_{x_0} = p^{-1}(x_0)$. Further we abbreviate the notation for the Anosov flow $g_{x_0}^t$ on $M_{x_0} = M$ to g^t . We use Y to denote the Anosov vector field on M and Y_x for the vector field which generates g_x^t , $x \in X$.

For each $x \in X$ consider the space F_x of all homeomorphisms $\varphi: M \rightarrow M_x$ which satisfy the following properties. (Cf. the definition of F_x in the proof of Theorem 4.2.)

- P1. $\varphi: M \rightarrow M_x$ is an orbit conjugacy between g^t and g_x^t , which preserves the flow direction;
- P3. $\varphi: M \rightarrow M_x$ is bi-Hölder continuous, *i.e.*, both φ and φ^{-1} are Hölder continuous with some positive Hölder exponent (which can depend on φ);
- P4. $\varphi: M \rightarrow M_x$ is differentiable along Y ; moreover, the derivative $\varphi': M \rightarrow R$ along Y defined by

$$D\varphi(a)Y(a) = \varphi'(a)Y_x(\varphi(a))$$

is a positive Hölder continuous function (whose Hölder exponent depends on φ);

Note that, in particular, we have defined the space $F \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} F_{x_0}$ of certain special self orbit conjugacies of g^t . Following closely the arguments in the proof of Theorem 4.2 we obtain the following claims.

1. Space F is a non-empty group when equipped with composition operation.
2. The action of F on the space F_x by pre-composition is free and transitive for each $x \in X$.

Now let

$$\mathcal{F}(X) = \bigsqcup_{x \in X} F_x.$$

We equip $\mathcal{F}(X)$ with C^0 topology using charts of $p: E \rightarrow X$.

3. The map $\mathcal{F}(p): \mathcal{F}(X) \rightarrow X$ that assigns to each $\varphi \in F_x \subset \mathcal{F}(X)$ its base-point x is a locally trivial principal fiber bundle with structure group F .

We call the bijection between the space of orbits of g^t and the space of orbits of g_x^t induced by a $\varphi \in F_x$ a *marking* of orbits of g_x^t . There is an obvious map $F_x \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_x$ to the space \mathcal{M}_x of all possible markings of orbits of g_x^t . Let

$$\mathcal{M}(X) = \bigsqcup_{x \in X} \mathcal{M}_x.$$

The assembled map $mark: \mathcal{F}(X) \rightarrow \mathcal{M}(X)$ induces a topology on $\mathcal{M}(X)$. This topology can be described as follows. Markings $m_x \in \mathcal{M}_x$ and $m_y \in \mathcal{M}_y$ are close if and only if x is close to y and there exists an orbit conjugacy $\xi_{xy}: M_x \rightarrow M_y$ between g_x^t and g_y^t which is C^0 close to identity (in a chart) and takes the marking m_x to the marking m_y . Note that, by structural stability, for any y sufficiently close to x there exist an orbit conjugacy ξ_{xy} . Moreover, among orbit conjugacies C^0 close to identity, ξ_{xy} is unique up to homotopy that moves points a short distance along the orbits (see [PSW12, Section 5] for the details and discussion of this uniqueness property). It immediately follows that the map

$$\mathcal{M}(p): \mathcal{M}(X) \rightarrow X$$

which takes $m \in \mathcal{M}_x \subset \mathcal{M}(X)$ to its base-point x is a covering map. Because X is simply connected the restriction of $\mathcal{M}(p)$ to each connected component of $\mathcal{M}(X)$ is a one sheeted covering. Denote by $\bar{\mathcal{M}}(X)$ the connected component containing the trivial self marking of g^t in $\mathcal{M}(X)$. Let

$$\bar{\mathcal{F}}(X) = (mark)^{-1}(\bar{\mathcal{M}}(X))$$

and let \bar{F} be the preimage of the trivial self marking, *i.e.*,

$$\bar{F} = \{\varphi \in F : \varphi \text{ induces trivial self marking of } g^t\}.$$

Clearly $\bar{\mathcal{F}}(X)$ is open and closed subbundle of $\mathcal{F}(X)$ and, using the third claim above, it is straightforward to verify that $\bar{\mathcal{F}}(X) \rightarrow X$ is a principal fiber bundle with structure group \bar{F} .

By the definition of $\varphi \in \bar{F}$, we have $\varphi(\gamma) = \gamma$ for all orbits γ . With this information on the structure group \bar{F} we can show that \bar{F} is contractible and then deduce that bundle $p: E \rightarrow X$ is topologically trivial. The technical conditions P3 and P4 guarantee that this last step can be carried out in exactly the same way as in the proof of Theorem 4.2. \square

Proof of Theorem 4.5. Let $\mathbb{T}^n \rightarrow E \xrightarrow{p} \mathbb{S}^d$ be the smoothly non-trivial fiber bundle constructed in Section 3.2 and let $f: E \rightarrow E$ be the fiberwise Anosov diffeomorphism constructed in Section 3.3 for the proof of Theorem 3.7. Let E_f be the mapping torus of f , *i.e.*,

$$E_f = E \times [0, 1] / (x, 1) \sim (f(x), 0).$$

Then E_f is the total space of the fiber bundle $\mathbb{T}_f^n \rightarrow E_f \xrightarrow{p_f} \mathbb{S}^d$ whose fibers $\mathbb{T}_{f,x}^n$, $x \in \mathbb{S}^d$, are the mapping tori of $f|_{\mathbb{T}_x^n}$, $x \in \mathbb{S}^d$. It is easy to check that the suspension

flow on E_f is a fiberwise Anosov flow which satisfies the assumptions of Theorem 4.2. To complete the proof we will show that $p_f: E_f \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^d$ is not smoothly trivial.

The fundamental group of the mapping torus fiber $\mathbb{T}_{f,x}^n$ is $\mathbb{Z}_{f_*} \ltimes \mathbb{Z}^n$, where $f_*: \mathbb{Z}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^n$ is the automorphism of $\pi_1(\mathbb{T}^n) = \mathbb{Z}^n$ induced by $f|_{\mathbb{T}_x^n}$. The inclusion $\mathbb{T}_{f,x}^n \subset E_f$ induces a canonical isomorphism $\pi_1(\mathbb{T}_{f,x}^n) \rightarrow \pi_1(E_f)$. Hence, both $\pi_1(E_f)$ and $\pi_1(\mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}_f^n)$ are canonically identified with $\mathbb{Z}_{f_*} \ltimes \mathbb{Z}^n$.

Now, assume to the contrary that there exists a fiber preserving diffeomorphism $\varphi: E_f \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}_f^n$. For both, E_f and $\mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}_f^n$, consider covers that correspond to the normal subgroup $\mathbb{Z}^n \subset \mathbb{Z}_{f_*} \ltimes \mathbb{Z}^n$. Clearly, the covering spaces are $E \times \mathbb{R}$ and $\mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}^n \times \mathbb{R}$, respectively.

Claim 4.14. *Diffeomorphism $\varphi: E_f \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}_f^n$ admits a lifting $\tilde{\varphi}: E \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}^n \times \mathbb{R}$.*

Proof. Using the fact that f_* is hyperbolic one can check that $\mathbb{Z}^n \subset \mathbb{Z}_{f_*} \ltimes \mathbb{Z}^n$ is the commutator subgroup. It follows that the subgroup \mathbb{Z}^n is invariant under all automorphisms of $\mathbb{Z}_{f_*} \ltimes \mathbb{Z}^n$. Hence $\varphi_*(\mathbb{Z}^n) = \mathbb{Z}^n$. Therefore, by the lifting criterion, φ admits a lifting to the covers that correspond to \mathbb{Z}^n . (Recall that both $\pi_1(E_f)$ and $\pi_1(\mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}_f^n)$ are canonically identified with $\mathbb{Z}_{f_*} \ltimes \mathbb{Z}^n$.) \square

Note that $\tilde{\varphi}$ is a smooth trivialization of the bundle $E \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^d$. We cut $\mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}_f^n$ along $\tilde{\varphi}(E \times \{0\})$. For sufficiently large t the submanifold $\mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}^n \times \{t\}$ is disjoint with $\tilde{\varphi}(E \times \{0\})$ and by cutting again along $\mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}^n \times \{t\}$ we obtain a cobordism W^{d+n+1} such that $\partial^+ W^{d+n+1} = E$ and $\partial^- W^{d+n+1} = \mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}^n$. It is easy to check that W^{d+n+1} is an h -cobordism. Since the Whitehead group $Wh(\pi_1(\mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}^n))$ vanishes the s -cobordism theorem applies (by construction in Section 3.2, $d+n \geq 7$) and we conclude that E is diffeomorphic to $\mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}^n$. Moreover, W^{d+n+1} smoothly fibers over \mathbb{S}^d with structure group $\text{Diff}(\mathbb{T}^n \times [0, 1], \mathbb{T}^n \times \{0\})$, i.e., its structure group is the group of all smooth pseudo-isotopies $P(\mathbb{T}^n)$ of the torus \mathbb{T}^n . This bundle must of course be trivial over each of the two hemispheres \mathbb{D}_{\pm}^d of \mathbb{S}^d . We proceed to use this fact to construct a weakly smooth trivialization of the bundle $p: E \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^d$. (Recall the definition preceding Addendum 3.12.) This will contradict Addendum 3.12 according to which $p: E \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^d$ is not weakly smoothly trivial. And this contradiction will finish the proof of Theorem 4.5. So it remains to construct g .

We obtain $g|_{\mathbb{D}_{\pm}^d \times \mathbb{T}^n}$ from the trivialization of the bundle

$$\mathbb{T}^n \times [0, 1] \rightarrow W^{d+n+1}|_{\mathbb{D}_{\pm}^d} \rightarrow \mathbb{D}_{\pm}^d$$

mentioned above. Then we apply the s -cobordism theorem to the h -cobordism $(W^{d+n+1}|_{\mathbb{D}_{\pm}^d}, \mathbb{D}_{\pm}^d \times \mathbb{T}^n)$ to extend the product structure on $W^{d+n+1}|_{\mathbb{D}_{\pm}^d \cap \mathbb{D}_{\pm}^d}$ to all of $W^{d+n+1}|_{\mathbb{D}_{\pm}^d}$. Note that this extension need not be fiber preserving; i.e., g needn't be a smooth bundle trivialization. But it is, at least, a weak smooth trivialization. \square

5. PROOF OF THEOREM 1.6

Let M be a smooth closed n -dimensional manifold and let $f: M \rightarrow M$ be a diffeomorphism. The differential map $Df: TM \rightarrow TM$ is linear when restricted to fibers and, hence, induces a bundle self map of SM which we still denote by Df . In this way the group $\text{Diff}(M)$ of all self diffeomorphisms of M also acts on SM and, hence, embeds into $\text{Diff}(SM)$.

5.1. Strategy of the proof. We will fix a closed orientable real hyperbolic manifold M , whose dimension n is an odd integer and $n \gg 2p - 3$ (relative to Igusa's stable range). Our goal is to find a map $\varphi: \mathbb{S}^{2p-4} \rightarrow \text{Diff}(M)$ such that the induced map

$$D\varphi: \mathbb{S}^{2p-4} \rightarrow \text{Diff}(SM),$$

when composed with the natural inclusion $\sigma: \text{Diff}(SM) \hookrightarrow \text{Top}(SM)$, represents a non-zero element in $\pi_{2p-4}(\text{Top}(SM))$. Applying the clutching construction to α yields the smooth bundle $M \rightarrow E \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^{2p-3}$ posited in Theorem 1.6. (The definition of clutching was given in Section 3.4.) Then notice that

$$SM \rightarrow SE \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^{2p-3}$$

is the result of the clutching construction applied to $D\varphi$. This bundle is not topologically trivial if and only if the class of the composition $\sigma \circ D\varphi$ in the group $\pi_{2p-4}(\text{Top}(SM))$ is not zero. So it remains to do the construction.

5.2. The clutching map. We will use $P^s(\cdot)$ and $P(\cdot)$ to denote the smooth and topological pseudo-isotopy functors, respectively.

Identify $S^1 \times \mathbb{D}^{n-1}$ with a closed tubular neighborhood of an essential simple closed curve in M which represents an indivisible element of $\pi_1(M)$. Abbreviate $S^1 \times \mathbb{D}^{n-1}$ by $T \subset M$ and note that $\partial T = S^1 \times \mathbb{S}^{n-2}$. Denote the “top” of a pseudo-isotopy $P(T), P(M)$, etc., by f_1 , i.e., $f_1: M \rightarrow M$ is $f|_{M \times \{1\}}$. This gives a map $P(T) \rightarrow \text{Top}(T)$.

Consider the map $v: P^s(T) \rightarrow \text{Top}(SM)$ defined by the following composition

$$P^s(T) \xrightarrow{\iota} P^s(M) \xrightarrow{\text{top}} \text{Diff}(M) \xrightarrow{D} \text{Diff}(SM) \hookrightarrow \text{Top}(SM), \quad (5.1)$$

where ι is induced by the inclusion $T \hookrightarrow M$ (i.e., $\iota(f)$ coincides with f on T and is identity on $M \setminus T$). We will show that $\pi_{2p-4}(v)(\pi_{2p-4}(P^s(T)))$ is a non-trivial group. Then Theorem 1.6 follows as discussed in the Section 5.1 above.

Since T is parallelizable, we can (and do) fix an identification of ST with $T \times \mathbb{S}^{n-1}$ as bundles over T . This allows us to define a map

$$\hat{\cdot}: P(T) \rightarrow P(SM)$$

as follows

$$\hat{f}|_{(SM \setminus S(Int(T))) \times [0,1]} = id$$

and

$$\hat{f}|_{T \times \mathbb{S}^{n-1} \times [0,1]} = f \times id.$$

Note that $f \mapsto \hat{f}$ is a group homomorphism.

Denote by u the composite map

$$P^s(T) \hookrightarrow P(T) \xrightarrow{\hat{\cdot}} P(SM) \xrightarrow{\text{top}} \text{Top}(SM). \quad (5.2)$$

Let \mathbb{Z}_p^∞ denote the countably infinite direct sum of copies of the cyclic group \mathbb{Z}_p of order p .

Lemma 5.1. There exist a subgroup $\mathbb{Z}_p^\infty \subset \pi_{2p-4}(P^s(T))$ which maps monomorphically into $\pi_{2p-4}\text{Top}(SM)$ under $u_* = \pi_{2p-4}(u)$, i.e., under the homomorphism induced by u .

Corollary 5.2. The image $v_*(\mathbb{Z}_p^\infty)$ in $\pi_{2p-4}(\text{Top}(SM))$ is not finitely generated and, hence, is non-trivial.

Proof. First notice that each of the two compositions, (5.1) and (5.2), send $f \in P^s(T)$ to two maps $v(f): SM \rightarrow SM$ and $u(f): SM \rightarrow SM$ that cover the same map $\text{top}(\iota(f))$ of M . Hence the map

$$w(f) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} u(f) \circ v(f)^{-1}$$

covers id_M and, therefore, is equivalent to a smooth map $\varphi: M \rightarrow GL(n, \mathbb{R})$ such that $\varphi(x) = id_{\mathbb{R}^n}$ when $x \notin T$.

Notice that

$$u_* = w_* + v_*,$$

where maps u_* , w_* and v_* are the functorially induced group homomorphisms $\pi_{2p-4}P^s(T) \rightarrow \pi_{2p-4}\text{Top}(SM)$.

So if $w_*(\mathbb{Z}_p^\infty)$ and $v_*(\mathbb{Z}_p^\infty)$ were both finitely generated, then, $u_*(\mathbb{Z}_p^\infty)$ would also be finitely generated. Since it is not, by Lemma 5.1, we conclude that either image $w_*(\mathbb{Z}_p^\infty)$ or image $v_*(\mathbb{Z}_p^\infty)$ is not finitely generated. We will presently show that $w_*(\mathbb{Z}_p^\infty)$ is finitely generated and thus conclude that $v_*(\mathbb{Z}_p^\infty)$ is not finitely generated proving the Corollary.

For this consider the bundle

$$GL(n, \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \text{Aut}(TM) \rightarrow M,$$

associated to the tangent bundle $\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow TM \rightarrow M$ in the sense of Steenrod [St51]. The fiber of this bundle is the space of all invertible linear transformations of the fiber $T_x M$, the tangent space at $x \in M$. (Caveat: this is not the principal frame bundle associated to TM .) Let Γ be the space of all smooth cross-sections to this bundle. Note that there is a canonical map

$$\Gamma \rightarrow \text{Diff}(SM)$$

and, as we observed above, w factors through the composite map

$$\Gamma_0 \rightarrow \text{Diff}(SM) \rightarrow \text{Top}(SM),$$

where Γ_0 is the subspace of Γ consisting of all cross-sections which map points outside of T to id in the fiber over that point. (Indeed, every element in Γ_0 is equivalent to a smooth map $\varphi: M \rightarrow GL(n, \mathbb{R})$ such that $\varphi(x) = id_{\mathbb{R}^n}$ when $x \notin T$.) Hence, to prove that the image $w_*(\mathbb{Z}_p^\infty)$ is finitely generated, it suffices to show the following claim.

Claim 5.3. *Let $k = 2p - 4$. Then the group $\pi_k \Gamma_0$ is finitely generated.*

Because T is parallelizable, Γ_0 is clearly homeomorphic to the space of all smooth maps

$$(T, \partial T) \rightarrow (GL(n, \mathbb{R}), id)$$

and therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_k \Gamma_0 &\simeq [\mathbb{D}^k \times T, \partial(\mathbb{D}^k \times T); O(n, \mathbb{R}), id] \\ &= [S^1 \times \mathbb{D}^{n+k-1}, \partial(S^1 \times \mathbb{D}^{n+k-1}); O(n, \mathbb{R}), id] \\ &= [\mathbb{S}^{n+k} \vee \mathbb{S}^{n+k-1}, \text{wedge pt.}; O(n, \mathbb{R}), id] \\ &= \pi_{n+k} O(n, \mathbb{R}) \oplus \pi_{n+k-1} O(n, \mathbb{R}). \end{aligned}$$

Hence, by Serre's thesis, this group is finitely generated. \square

5.3. Proof of Lemma 5.1. Let $\mathcal{P}^s(\cdot)$ and $\mathcal{P}(\cdot)$ denote the stable smooth and topological pseudo-isotopy (homotopy) functors, respectively; cf. [H78, §1]. The map $\hat{\cdot}: P(T) \rightarrow P(SM)$, defined in Section 5.2, induces a map $\mathcal{P}(T) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(SM)$ which we still denote by $\hat{\cdot}$. (Recall that the are working in the stable dimension range.)

The argument given in [FO10b, pp. 1419-20] for proving Theorem D of that paper carries over, when the manifold N in [FO10b] is replaced by SM , to prove Lemma 5.1 provided we can find a subgroup \mathbb{Z}_p^∞ of $\pi_k(\mathcal{P}^s(T))$, $k = 2p - 4$, such that the composite map

$$\mathbb{Z}_p^\infty \subset \pi_k(\mathcal{P}^s(T)) \rightarrow \pi_k(\mathcal{P}(T)) \xrightarrow{\hat{\cdot}} \pi_k(\mathcal{P}(SM)) \rightarrow H_0(\mathbb{Z}_2; \pi_k(\mathcal{P}(SM))) \quad (5.3)$$

is one-to-one. For this reduction we use the fact that the homomorphism induced by inclusion

$$\pi_k(\mathcal{P}^s(T)) \rightarrow \pi_k(\mathcal{P}(T))$$

is an isomorphism modulo the Serre class of finitely generated abelian groups; cf. [FJ87, Lemma 4.1]. To find such \mathbb{Z}_p^∞ consider the following commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \mathbb{Z}_p^\infty & \xrightarrow{\subset} & \pi_k(\mathcal{P}^s(T)) & \longrightarrow & \pi_k(\mathcal{P}(T)) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & H_0(\mathbb{Z}_2; \pi_k(\mathcal{P}(T))) \\ \uparrow \times 2 & & \uparrow \times 2 & & \uparrow \times 2 & \nwarrow q_* & \uparrow H_0(q_*) \\ \mathbb{Z}_p^\infty & \xrightarrow{\subset} & \pi_k(\mathcal{P}^s(T)) & \longrightarrow & \pi_k(\mathcal{P}(T)) & \longrightarrow & \pi_k(\mathcal{P}(ST)) \longrightarrow H_0(\mathbb{Z}_2; \pi_k(\mathcal{P}(ST))) \\ & & & & \downarrow i_* & & \downarrow H_0(i_*) \\ & & & & \pi_k(\mathcal{P}(SM)) & \longrightarrow & H_0(\mathbb{Z}_2; \pi_k(\mathcal{P}(SM))) \end{array}$$

Comments on the diagram:

1. The letter q denotes the bundle projections in both of the bundles $ST \rightarrow T$ and $SM \rightarrow M$. (The latter one does not appear in the diagram.)
2. The triangle in this diagram commutes because of [H78, Proposition on p. 18]. (Recall that the dimension n is an odd integer.)
3. The subgroup \mathbb{Z}_p^∞ in $\pi_k(\mathcal{P}^s(T))$ comes from [FO10a, Proposition 4.5] using the remarks on the last three lines of page 1420 of [FO10b] and the first three lines on the next page. By its construction \mathbb{Z}_p^∞ maps in a one-to-one fashion into $H_0(\mathbb{Z}_2; \pi_k(\mathcal{P}(N)))$ via the composition of the maps given on the top line of the diagram.
4. The functorially induced maps

$$\begin{aligned} q_*: \pi_k(\mathcal{P}^s(ST)) &\rightarrow \pi_k(\mathcal{P}^s(T)), \\ q_*: \pi_k(\mathcal{P}^s(SM)) &\rightarrow \pi_k(\mathcal{P}^s(M)) \end{aligned}$$

are \mathbb{Z}_2 -modules isomorphisms because of [H78, Corollary 5.2 and Lemma on p. 18] and the facts that $k < n - 1$ and $n - 1$ is even. The action of \mathbb{Z}_2 on $\mathcal{P}(T)$ and $\mathcal{P}(M)$ are induced by “turning a pseudo-isotopy upside down.” (See [H78, pp. 6-7] for more details.) Consequently, the functorially induced map

$$H_0(q_*): H_0(\mathbb{Z}_2; \pi_k(\mathcal{P}^s(ST))) \rightarrow H_0(\mathbb{Z}_2; \pi_k(\mathcal{P}^s(T)))$$

is an isomorphism.

5. The inclusion maps of T into M and ST into SM are both denoted by i . Then

$$\begin{aligned} i_*: \pi_k(\mathcal{P}^s(T)) &\rightarrow \pi_k(\mathcal{P}^s(M)), \\ i_*: \pi_k(\mathcal{P}^s(ST)) &\rightarrow \pi_k(\mathcal{P}^s(SM)) \end{aligned}$$

denote the functorially induced group homomorphisms which are both \mathbb{Z}_2 -module maps. Furthermore,

$$H_0(i_*): H_0(\mathbb{Z}_2; \pi_k(\mathcal{P}^s(ST))) \rightarrow H_0(\mathbb{Z}_2; \pi_k(\mathcal{P}^s(SM)))$$

is the group homomorphism induced functorially by i_* .

6. The main result of [FJ87] shows that i_* is an isomorphism onto a direct summand of $\pi_k(\mathcal{P}(M))$ as \mathbb{Z}_2 -modules. Hence, so is $i_*: \pi_k(\mathcal{P}^s(ST)) \rightarrow \pi_k(\mathcal{P}^s(SM))$ by comment 4 above (note that $q \circ i = i \circ q$). Consequently, $H_0(i_*)$ is monic.

Now “chasing the diagram” verifies that the composite map (5.3) is one-to-one completing the proof of Lemma 5.1, and thus also Theorem 1.6.

6. PROOF OF THEOREM 3.2

Denote by $G(M)$ the space of self homotopy equivalences of M and by $G_0(M) \subset G(M)$ the connected component of id_M . Also denote by $\text{Top}(M)$ the group of self homeomorphisms of M and by $\text{Top}_0(M)$ subgroup of $\text{Top}(M)$ which consists of homeomorphisms homotopic to id_M (through a path of maps). The proof of Theorem 3.2 is based on the following lemma.

Lemma 6.1. Let M be a (closed) infranilmanifold. Then $\text{Top}_0(M)$ contains a connected topological subgroup S satisfying the following properties.

1. The group S is a connected Lie group.
2. The composition $\sigma: S \rightarrow G_0(M)$ of the inclusion maps $S \subset \text{Top}_0(M)$ and $\text{Top}_0(M) \subset G_0(M)$ induces an isomorphism

$$\sigma_*: \pi_i(S) \rightarrow \pi_i G_0(M)$$

for all i .

3. If $L: M \rightarrow M$ is an affine Anosov diffeomorphism of M , then

$$F \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\varphi \in \text{Top}_0(M) : \varphi \circ L = L \circ \varphi\}$$

is a subgroup of S .

We proceed with the proof of Theorem 3.2 assuming Lemma 6.1. Let $q: E \rightarrow M$ be a fiber homotopy trivialization of the Anosov bundle

$$M \rightarrow E \xrightarrow{p} X.$$

As in the proof of Theorem 4.2 we identify M with a particular fiber $M_{x_0} = p^{-1}(x_0)$. Recall that we can assume without loss of generality that $q|_M: M \rightarrow M$ is homotopic to identity; moreover, by performing a homotopy in a chart we can (and do) assume that $q|_M = id_M$. Also recall that the bundle $M \rightarrow E \rightarrow X$ admits a fiberwise Anosov diffeomorphism. Recall that we denote by f_x , $x \in X$, the Anosov diffeomorphisms of the fibers M_x , $x \in X$. We will write $f: M \rightarrow M$ for the restriction $f_{x_0}: M \rightarrow M$ of the Anosov bundle map to the fiber $M = M_{x_0}$.

For each $x \in X$ consider the space F_x of all homeomorphisms $\varphi: M \rightarrow M_x$ which are conjugacies between f and f_x and which also satisfy the property “ $q \circ \varphi: M \rightarrow M$ ”

is homotopic to id_M .” It follows from the uniqueness part of the structural stability theorem that each F_x is a discrete topological space.

Let

$$\mathcal{F}(X) = \bigsqcup_{x \in X} F_x.$$

Also let $\mathcal{F}(p): \mathcal{F}(X) \rightarrow X$ be the map that sends the fibers F_x to their base-points, $x \in X$. By an argument similar to that given in the proof of Theorem 4.2, $\mathcal{F}(p): \mathcal{F}(X) \rightarrow X$ is a covering of X . Moreover, it is a regular covering space; *i.e.*, a principal bundle with structure group

$$F_{x_0} = \{\varphi \in \text{Top}_0(M) : \varphi \circ f = f \circ \varphi\}.$$

By work of Franks and Manning [Fr69, M74], the Anosov diffeomorphism $f: M \rightarrow M$ is conjugate to an affine automorphism $L: M \rightarrow M$ via a conjugacy homotopic to id_M . This conjugacy gives an isomorphism between topological groups F_{x_0} and F . Thus we can (and do) identify F_{x_0} and F .

Notice that the associated M -bundle $\mathcal{F}(X) \times_F M$ is isomorphic to E via $(\varphi, y) \mapsto \varphi(y)$, as $\text{Top}(M)$ -bundles. Hence we have reduced the structure group of the bundle $p: E \rightarrow X$ from $\text{Top}(M)$ to the subgroup F and, therefore, to S , where S is the topological subgroup of $\text{Top}_0(M)$ posited in Lemma 6.1. Consequently, it suffice to show that the principal S -bundle $\mathcal{F}(X) \times_F S \rightarrow X$ associated to $p: E \rightarrow X$ is trivial.

Recall that the total space $\mathcal{F}(X) \times_F S$ is the quotient of $\mathcal{F}(X) \times S$ by the action of F , given by $(\varphi, s) \mapsto (\varphi \circ \psi, \psi^{-1} \circ s)$, $\psi \in F$. Therefore the map $\eta: \mathcal{F}(X) \times_F S \rightarrow G_0(M)$ given by

$$(\varphi, s) \mapsto q \circ \varphi \circ s$$

is well defined. Notice that because $q|_M = id_M$, map η restricted to the fiber over x_0 is the composite map

$$\sigma: S \rightarrow \text{Top}_0(M) \rightarrow G_0(M).$$

Because $G_0(M)$ has the homotopy type of a CW complex, which is a consequence of [M59, Theorem 1], map σ is a homotopy equivalence by property 2 of Lemma 6.1 and, hence, has a homotopy inverse σ^{-1} . Then the map $\sigma^{-1} \circ \eta: \mathcal{F}(X) \times_F S \rightarrow S$ is a homotopy equivalence when restricted to the fibers, *i.e.*, the bundle $\mathcal{F}(X) \times_F S \rightarrow X$ is fiber homotopically trivial. Hence it has a cross-section and consequently is a trivial S -bundle.

To finish the proof of Theorem 3.2 it remains to establish Lemma 6.1.

Proof of Lemma 6.1. This is a consequence of the construction and arguments made in Appendix C of [FG13]. In particular, S is \mathcal{N}_0^G , *i.e.*, the connected component containing identity element of the Lie group \mathcal{N}^G from Fact 23 of Appendix C. We recall its definition.

The universal cover of M is a simply connected nilpotent Lie group N and $\pi_1(M)$, considered as the group of deck transformations of N , is a discrete subgroup of $N \rtimes G$, where G is a finite group of automorphisms of N which maps monomorphically into $\text{Out}(N)$. Also $\pi_1(M)$ projects epimorphically onto G . Let $\Gamma = \pi_1(M) \cap N$, *i.e.*, the subgroup of $\pi_1(M)$ that acts by pure translations. The homogeneous space $\widehat{M} = N/\Gamma$ is a nilmanifold, which is a regular finite-sheeted cover of M whose group

of deck transformations can be identified with G . The natural action of N on \widehat{M} gives a representation

$$\hat{\rho}: N \rightarrow \text{Top}_0(\widehat{M}),$$

whose kernel is $\mathcal{Z}(N) \cap \Gamma$, where $\mathcal{Z}(N)$ denotes the center of N . The image of this representation is the nilpotent Lie group \mathcal{N} , *i.e.*,

$$\mathcal{N} = N/\mathcal{Z}(\Gamma).$$

(It is a consequence of Mal'cev rigidity that $\mathcal{Z}(\Gamma) = \mathcal{Z}(N) \cap \Gamma$, see [M49].) Now G acts on \mathcal{N} by conjugation. Let \mathcal{N}^G denote the subgroup of \mathcal{N} which is fixed by G . The group \mathcal{N}^G maps isomorphically onto a topological subgroup of $\text{Top}_0(M)$ which we also denote by \mathcal{N}^G . Then the connected Lie group S posited in Lemma is the connected component of identity element \mathcal{N}_0^G . The argument on the last 10 lines of Appendix C (crucially using [W70]) shows that F is a subgroup of S , *i.e.*, verifies property 3 of Lemma.

So it remains to verify property 2. Recall (1.1)

$$\pi_n(G_0(M)) = \begin{cases} \mathcal{Z}(\pi_1(M)), & \text{if } n = 1 \\ 0, & \text{if } n \geq 2 \end{cases}$$

So we need a similar calculation for $\pi_n(S)$.

The group S is a connected nilpotent Lie group, hence $\pi_n(S) = 0$ for $n \geq 2$. To calculate $\pi_1(S)$, we use that

$$\rho: N^G \rightarrow S$$

is a covering space. To see this apply the functor $(\cdot)^G$ to the following (covering space) exact sequence

$$1 \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}(\Gamma) \rightarrow N \rightarrow \mathcal{N} \rightarrow 1,$$

which yields the half exact sequence

$$1 \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}(\Gamma)^G \rightarrow N^G \rightarrow \mathcal{N}^G \rightarrow .$$

Then, using a Lie algebra argument, we see that the image of N^G in \mathcal{N}^G is $\mathcal{N}_0^G = S$, since N^G is connected by Fact 22 of [FG13, Appendix C]. Moreover, N^G is contractible since it is a closed connected subgroup of the simply connected nilpotent Lie group N . Consequently,

$$\pi_1(S) = \ker(\rho) = \mathcal{Z}(\Gamma)^G.$$

Claim 6.2. *Group $\mathcal{Z}(\Gamma)^G$ is isomorphic to $\mathcal{Z}(\pi_1(M))$.*

Proof. An element v is in $\mathcal{Z}(\Gamma)^G$ if and only if the following two conditions are satisfied.

1. $v \in \mathcal{Z}(\Gamma)$;
2. $\forall h \in G, h(v) = v$.

Then, the inclusion $\mathcal{Z}(\Gamma)^G \subset \mathcal{Z}(\pi_1(M))$ follows from the following identity

$$(h, u)(id_N, v)(h, u)^{-1} = (id_N, uh(v)u^{-1}) \quad (6.1)$$

valid for all $h \in G$ and $u, v \in N$.

To check the opposite inclusion $\mathcal{Z}(\pi_1(M)) \subset \mathcal{Z}(\Gamma)^G$ take $(g, v) \in \mathcal{Z}(\pi_1(M))$. Then

$$uh(v) = vg(u) \quad (6.2)$$

for all $(h, u) \in \mathcal{Z}(\pi_1(M))$. By choosing $h = id_N$ we obtain $g(u) = v^{-1}uv$ for all $u \in \Gamma$, and, hence, g is an inner automorphism of N . But G maps monomorphically

into $Out(N)$; therefore, $g = id_N$ and $v \in \mathcal{Z}(\Gamma)$. Finally, to see that $(id_N, v) \in \mathcal{Z}(\pi_1(M))$ satisfies the condition 2 as well, we use the fact that the composition $\pi_1(M) \subset G \ltimes N \rightarrow G$ is an epimorphism in conjunction with (6.1) and (6.2). \square

Therefore, the above claim implies $\pi_1(S) \simeq \pi_1(G_0(M))$.

It remains to show that $\sigma_*: \pi_1(S) \rightarrow \pi_1(G_0(M))$ is an isomorphism. However, $\pi_1(S) \subset \mathcal{Z}(\Gamma)$ and, hence, $\pi_1(S)$ is a finitely generated abelian group. Therefore it suffices to show that σ_* is an epimorphism, but this is a consequence of Fact 22 of [FG13, Appendix C]. \square

To prove Addeddum 3.5 we need the following modification of Lemma 6.1.

Lemma 6.3. Let M be a (closed) nilmanifold. Then $\text{Top}(M)$ contains a topological subgroup S satisfying the following properties.

1. The group S is a Lie group.
2. The composition $\sigma: S \rightarrow G(M)$ of the inclusion maps $S \subset \text{Top}(M)$ and $\text{Top}(M) \subset G(M)$ induces an isomorphism

$$\sigma_*: \pi_i(S) \rightarrow \pi_i G(M)$$

for all $i \geq 0$.

3. If $L: M \rightarrow M$ is an affine Anosov diffeomorphism of M , then

$$F \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\varphi \in \text{Top}(M) : \varphi \circ L = L \circ \varphi\}$$

is a subgroup of S .

We proceed with the proof of Addeddum 3.5 assuming Lemma 6.3.

Proof of Addeddum 3.5. By the argument used to prove Theorem 3.2 we can identify the nilmanifolds $M_i = N_i/\Gamma_i$, $i = 1, 2$, with fibers M_{i,x_0} for a fixed base point $x_0 \in X$. By the argument used in the proof of Theorem 3.2 the Anosov diffeomorphisms $f_i: M_i \rightarrow M_i$ can be identified with affine Anosov diffeomorphisms L_i . We proceed as in the proof of Theorem 3.2 separately for each bundle $p_i: E_i \rightarrow X$. For $x \in X$ consider the fibers $F_{i,x}$ that consist of all homeomorphisms $\varphi: M_i \rightarrow M_{i,x}$ which are conjugacies between f_i and $f_{i,x}$. (Note we drop the constraint that involves fiber homotopy equivalence.) By taking the union of these fibers we still obtain principal bundles

$$\mathcal{F}(p_i): \mathcal{F}_i(X) \rightarrow X,$$

which reduce (inside of $\text{Top}(M_i)$) the structure group of each bundle $p_i: E_i \rightarrow X$ to the group

$$F_i \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\varphi \in \text{Top}(M_i) : \varphi \circ L_i = L_i \circ \varphi\}.$$

By Mal'cev's rigidity theorem, the given homotopy equivalence $M_1 = M_{1,x_0}$ to $M_2 = M_{2,x_0}$ determines an affine diffeomorphism between M_1 and M_2 via which we identify M_1 and M_2 to a common nilmanifold M to which we apply Lemma 6.3. In this way we reduce the structure group of each bundle, inside $\text{Top}(M)$, to the Lie group S posited in Lemma 6.3.

Let $k_i: X \rightarrow BS$, $i = 1, 2$, be a continuous map which classifies the bundle E_i in terms of its reduced structure group S . Here BS denotes the classifying space for bundles with structure group S . Similarly, $BG(M)$ is the classifying

space constructed by Stasheff [St63] for homotopy M -bundles up to fiber homotopy equivalence, cf. [MM79, pages 3-7]. The inclusion map $S \subset G(M)$ induces a map

$$\eta: BS \rightarrow BG(M),$$

which corresponds to the forget structure map at the bundle level. Because of property 2 in Lemma 6.3, η is a weak homotopy equivalence and hence induces a bijection

$$\eta_*: [X, BS] \rightarrow [X, BG(M)]$$

between homotopy classes of maps, cf. [S66, p. 405, Cor. 23].

Since the bundles E_1 and E_2 are fiber homotopically equivalent, the composite maps $\eta \circ k_1$ and $\eta \circ k_2$ are homotopic. Consequently, k_1 is homotopic to k_2 . Let $\sigma: BS \rightarrow B\text{Top}(M)$ denote the map induced by inclusion $S \subset \text{Top}(M)$. Then $\sigma \circ k_1$ is homotopic to $\sigma \circ k_2$ and therefore E_1 and E_2 are equivalent as $\text{Top}(M)$ -bundles. \square

To finish the proof of Addeddum 3.5 it remains to establish Lemma 6.3.

Proof of Lemma 6.3. We start by recollecting some terminology. First recall that $M = N/\Gamma$, where N is a simply connected nilpotent Lie group and $\Gamma \subset N$ is a discrete cocompact subgroup. An affine diffeomorphism of N is the composite of an automorphism $\alpha \in \text{Aut}(N)$ with a left translation $L_a: N \rightarrow N$, where $a \in N$, which is defined by

$$x \mapsto ax, \quad \text{for all } x \in N.$$

Likewise, the right translation $R_a: N \rightarrow N$ and the inner automorphism $I_a: N \rightarrow N$ are defined by

$$x \mapsto xa \quad \text{and} \quad x \mapsto axa^{-1},$$

respectively. Note that L_a induces a self diffeomorphism of the left coset space N/Γ (nilmanifold) given by the formula

$$x\Gamma \mapsto ax\Gamma.$$

The right translation R_a also induce a self diffeomorphism when $a \in \Gamma$. Denote these diffeomorphisms again by L_a and R_a , respectively.

Mal'cev showed that every $\alpha \in \text{Aut}(\Gamma)$ induces an automorphism $\bar{\alpha} \in \text{Aut}(N)$, which in turn induces a self diffeomorphism (denoted again by) $\alpha \in \text{Diff}(N/\Gamma)$ given by the formula

$$x\Gamma \mapsto \bar{\alpha}(x)\Gamma.$$

In particular, if $a \in \Gamma$ then the inner automorphism I_a induces a self diffeomorphism $I_a \in \text{Diff}(N/\Gamma)$. An *affine diffeomorphism* of N/Γ is by definition the composite of maps of the form α and L_a in $\text{Diff}(N/\Gamma)$. Note that $a \mapsto L_a$ induces an homomorphism of N onto a closed subgroup of $\text{Top}(N/\Gamma)$ whose kernel is $\mathcal{Z}(N) \cap \Gamma = \mathcal{Z}(\Gamma)$; while $\text{Aut}(\Gamma) \rightarrow \text{Diff}(N/\Gamma)$ induces an embedding of $\text{Out}(\Gamma)$ onto a discrete subgroup of $\text{Top}(N/\Gamma)$. We note the following identities

$$\alpha \circ L_a \circ \alpha^{-1} = L_{\alpha(a)}; \quad R_a = L_a \circ I_{a^{-1}} = I_{a^{-1}} \circ L_a,$$

for all $a \in N$ and $\alpha \in \text{Aut}(N)$. From these one easily deduces the following equations

1. $\text{Aff}(N) \simeq \text{Aut}(N) \ltimes N$;
2. $\text{Aff}(N/\Gamma) \simeq \text{Aut}(\Gamma) \ltimes N/\sigma(\Gamma)$,

where $\sigma: \Gamma \rightarrow \text{Aff}(N)$ is the monic anti-homomorphism given by $\sigma(a) = R_a$, $a \in \Gamma$. (Here $\text{Aff}(N)$ and $\text{Aff}(N/\Gamma)$ denote the closed subgroups of $\text{Top}(N)$ and $\text{Top}(N/\Gamma)$, respectively, consisting of all affine diffeomorphisms. Furthermore, $\sigma(\Gamma)$ is a discrete normal subgroup of $\text{Aff}(N)$.)

Under the canonical projection $\text{Aut}(\Gamma) \ltimes N$ to $\text{Aut}(\Gamma)$, $\sigma(\Gamma)$ maps onto the group of all inner automorphisms of Γ , $\text{Inn}(\Gamma)$ with kernel $\mathcal{Z}(\Gamma)$. Hence the canonical exact sequence

$$1 \rightarrow N \rightarrow \text{Aut}(\Gamma) \ltimes N \rightarrow \text{Aut}(\Gamma) \rightarrow 1$$

yields the following quotient exact sequence

$$1 \rightarrow N/\mathcal{Z}(\Gamma) \rightarrow \text{Aff}(N/\Gamma) \rightarrow \text{Out}(\Gamma) \rightarrow 1$$

Using this we easily deduce that the inclusion map $\text{Aff}(N/\Gamma) \subset G(M/\Gamma)$ induces an isomorphism on the homotopy groups π_i for $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$. We now define S to be this subgroup $\text{Aff}(N/\Gamma)$ of $\text{Top}(N/\Gamma) = \text{Top}(M)$. Hence, we have already verified the properties 1 and 2 asserted in Lemma 6.3. The remaining property 3 follows immediately from Theorem 2 in Walters' paper [W70]. \square

Remark 6.4. We conjecture that Addendum 3.5 remains true in the more general situation where the fibers of the Anosov bundles $p_i: E_i \rightarrow X$, $i = 1, 2$, are only assumed to be infranilmanifolds. The proof given above for Addendum 3.5 would work in this more general setting provided Lemma 6.3 remained true when M is only assumed to be an infranilmanifold.

7. FINAL REMARKS

7.1. A partially hyperbolic diffeomorphism of $(\mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}^n) \# \Sigma_\alpha$. Here we explain that the fiberwise Anosov diffeomorphism $f: E_\alpha \rightarrow E_\alpha$ constructed in Section 3 can be viewed as a partially hyperbolic diffeomorphism and point out certain properties of this diffeomorphism.

First we need to recall some definitions from partially hyperbolic dynamics. Given a closed Riemannian manifold N a diffeomorphism $f: N \rightarrow N$ is called *partially hyperbolic* if there exists a continuous Df -invariant non-trivial splitting of the tangent bundle $TN = E_f^s \oplus E_f^c \oplus E_f^u$ and positive constants $\nu < \mu_- < \mu_+ < \lambda$, $\nu < 1 < \lambda$, and $C > 0$ such that for $n > 0$

$$\begin{aligned} \|D(f^n)v\| &\leq C\nu^n\|v\|, \quad v \in E_f^s, \\ \frac{1}{C}\mu_-^n\|v\| &\leq \|D(f^n)v\| \leq C\mu_+^n\|v\|, \quad v \in E_f^c, \\ \frac{1}{C}\lambda^n\|v\| &\leq \|D(f^n)v\|, \quad v \in E_f^u. \end{aligned}$$

It is well known that the distributions E_f^s and E_f^u integrate uniquely to foliations \mathcal{W}_f^s and \mathcal{W}_f^u . If the distribution E_f^c also integrates to an f -invariant foliation \mathcal{W}_f^c then f is called *dynamically coherent*. Furthermore, f is called *robustly dynamically coherent* if any diffeomorphism sufficiently C^1 close to f is also dynamically coherent.

Using Hirsch-Pugh-Shub structural stability theorem [HPS77, Theorem 7.1] we establish the following result.

Proposition 7.1. *Let X be a closed simply connected manifold and let $M \rightarrow E \xrightarrow{p} X$ be a smoothly non-trivial bundle. Assume that $f: E \rightarrow E$ is a fiberwise*

Anosov diffeomorphism. Then diffeomorphism f is partially hyperbolic and robustly dynamically coherent. Moreover, for any g which is sufficiently C^1 close to f , the center foliation \mathcal{W}_g^c is not smooth.

Note that this proposition applies to $f: E_\alpha \rightarrow E_\alpha$ constructed in Section 3. Recall that, by construction, the total space E_α is diffeomorphic to $(\mathbb{S}^d \times \mathbb{T}^n) \# \Sigma_\alpha$, where Σ_α is a homotopy $(d+n)$ -sphere, obtained by clutching using diffeomorphism $\alpha \in \text{Diff}_{k+d-1}(\mathbb{D}^{n+d-1}, \partial)$.

In general, the center foliation \mathcal{W}_f^c of a dynamically coherent partially hyperbolic diffeomorphism is continuous foliation with smooth leaves. To the best of our knowledge, all previously known examples of partially hyperbolic dynamically coherent diffeomorphisms f have the following property:

(\star) *There exists a path $f_t, t \in [0, 1]$, of partially hyperbolic dynamically coherent diffeomorphism such that $f_0 = f$ and the center foliation $\mathcal{W}_{f_1}^c$ is a smooth foliation.*

Conjecture 7.2. *The partially hyperbolic diffeomorphism $f: E_\alpha \rightarrow E_\alpha$ constructed in Section 3 does not have property (\star).*

Note that Proposition 7.1 supports this conjecture.

Proof of Proposition 7.1. Let

$$T^{\text{fib}} E \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \bigcup_{x \in X} TM_x$$

be the bundle of vectors tangent to the fibers of $p: E \rightarrow X$. We have a Df -invariant splitting $T^{\text{fib}} E = E_f^s \oplus E_f^u$, where E_f^s is exponentially contracting and E_f^u is exponentially expanding.

Recall that the proof of Theorem 3.1 yields a topological trivialization $h: E \rightarrow M$. Hence we have a fiber preserving homeomorphism $(p, h): E \rightarrow X \times M$.

For each $y \in E$ consider the the preimage $W_f^c(y) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (p, h)^{-1}(X \times \{h(y)\})$. Because of our construction of h , which locally comes from parametric families of homeomorphisms given by structural stability theorem, and smooth dependence of these homeomorphisms on parameter (*i.e.*, base point) [LMM86, Theorem A.1], we obtain that, in fact, $W_f^c(y)$ are smoothly embedded submanifolds of E whose tangent space $E_f^c(y) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} T_y W_f^c(y)$ depends continuously on $y \in E$. Hence \mathcal{W}_f^c is a continuous foliation by smooth compact leaves. Moreover, this foliation is f -invariant. This follows from the fact that \mathcal{W}_f^c is the pullback of the “horizontal” foliation on $X \times M$ and (p, h) is a conjugacy between f and $id_X \times f|_M$ (recall, that in the proof of Theorem 3.1 we have identified M with a particular fiber M_{x_0}). Therefore the distribution E_f^c is Df -invariant. Then, because the dynamics induced by f on the base is id_X , one can check that f is partially hyperbolic with respect to the Df -invariant splitting $TE = E_f^s \oplus E_f^c \oplus E_f^u$.

Since \mathcal{W}_f^c is a compact foliation, Hirsch-Pugh-Shub structural stability theorem [HPS77, Theorem 7.1] in conjunction with the result which verifies plaque expansivity hypothesis for applying Hirsch-Pugh-Shub structural stability (see *e.g.*, [PSW12]) yields that f is robustly dynamically coherent. Now, for any g sufficiently C^1 close to f the center foliation \mathcal{W}_g^c is C^1 close to \mathcal{W}_f^c and, hence, is transverse to the fibers of $p: E \rightarrow X$. Therefore \mathcal{W}_g^c defines holonomy homeomorphisms $M_x \rightarrow M (= M_{x_0})$. These holonomy homeomorphisms assemble into a topological trivialization of $p: E \rightarrow X$. Note that if \mathcal{W}_g^c is smooth then holonomies are smooth

and the trivialization will be smooth as well. Hence \mathcal{W}_g^c cannot be smooth, because $p: E \rightarrow X$ is smoothly non-trivial. \square

7.2. Partially hyperbolic setup. It would be very interesting to generalize our results (*e.g.*, Theorems 3.1, 3.2, and 4.2) to the more general setting of bundles that admit fiberwise partially hyperbolic diffeomorphisms (see Section 7.1 for the definition of a partially hyperbolic diffeomorphism).

Conjecture 7.3. *Let X be a closed manifold or finite simplicial complex and let $p: E \rightarrow X$ be a fiber homotopically trivial bundle whose fiber M is a closed manifold. Assume that E admits a fiberwise partially hyperbolic diffeomorphism whose center distribution is lower dimensional (1 or 2). Then $p: E \rightarrow X$ is topologically trivial.*

The above conjecture can be viewed as a possible generalization of Theorem 4.2. Theorem 4.2 depended on the Livshitz Theorem for Anosov flows in a crucial way. For the above conjecture one may try replacing the argument that uses Livshitz Theorem with a similar argument that would use a heat flow along the center foliation instead.

On the other hand, Theorem 3.1 does not admit straightforward (conjectural) generalization. This can be seen via the following example. Let $A: \mathbb{T}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{T}^2$ be an Anosov diffeomorphism, then $f = (A, id_{\mathbb{S}^3}): \mathbb{T}^2 \times \mathbb{S}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{T}^2 \times \mathbb{S}^3$ is partially hyperbolic. By multiplying the Hopf fibration by \mathbb{T}^2 we can view $\mathbb{T}^2 \times \mathbb{S}^3$ as the total space of the fiber bundle $\mathbb{T}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{T}^2 \times \mathbb{S}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^2$. It is clear that f is a fiberwise partially hyperbolic diffeomorphism, whose restrictions to the fibers have the form $A \times id_{\mathbb{S}^1}$. Hence, for a generalization of Theorem 3.1 we need to further restrict the class of fiberwise partially hyperbolic diffeomorphism. One natural class is the following one. A partially hyperbolic diffeomorphism $g: N \rightarrow N$ is called *irreducible* if it verifies the following conditions:

1. diffeomorphism g does not fiber over a (topologically) partially hyperbolic (or Anosov) diffeomorphism $\hat{g}: \hat{N} \rightarrow \hat{N}$ of a lower dimensional manifold \hat{N} ; that is, one cannot find a fiber bundle $p: N \rightarrow \hat{N}$ and a (topologically) partially hyperbolic (or Anosov) diffeomorphism $\hat{g}: \hat{N} \rightarrow \hat{N}$ such that $p \circ g = \hat{g} \circ p$;
2. if g' is homotopic to g then g' also verifies 1;
3. if \tilde{g} is a finite cover of g then \tilde{g} also verifies 1 and 2.

Conjecture 7.4. *Let X be a simply connected closed manifold or a simply connected finite simplicial complex and let $p: E \rightarrow X$ be a fiber bundle whose fiber M is a closed manifold. Assume that E admits a fiberwise irreducible partially hyperbolic diffeomorphism with low dimensional (1 or 2) center distribution. Then $p: E \rightarrow X$ is topologically trivial.*

Question 7.5. *Can one construct an example of a simply connected manifold X and a non-trivial fiber bundle $p: E \rightarrow X$ whose fiber M is a closed manifold such that the total space E can be equipped with a fiberwise irreducible partially hyperbolic diffeomorphism?*

Remark 7.6. If one modifies the definition of “fiberwise partially hyperbolic diffeomorphism” to allow diffeomorphisms that permute the fibers (*i.e.*, factor over a non-trivial diffeomorphism of X) then the answer to the above question is positive [GORH14].

7.3. Acknowledgements. We thank Rafael de la Llave and Federico Rodriguez Hertz for very useful communications. Also we thank the referee for comments which helped to improve our presentation.

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